

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



1904.

Health, Hospital and Cemetery Committee.

Chairman :

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Vice-Chairman :

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Clerk and Solicitor.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

A. CRAIGMILE, M.A., M.D.,
Medical Officer of Health.

HERBERT CLAUDIUS BASCOMBE,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

CHARLES HORSFALL SCOTT, JAMES MANSEL DAWKIN
Meat Inspector, and Inspector Assistant Sanitary Inspector for
under the Contagious Diseases District No. 1—New Brighton,
(Animals) Acts, 1885 & 1886. Wallasey, and part of Liscard.

GEORGE WILLIAM MASON, JOHN BERNARD SMITH,
Assistant Sanitary Inspector for Assistant Sanitary Inspector for
District No. 2—Seacombe, Poul- District No. 3—Seacombe, Egre-
ton, and part of Egremont and mont, and part of Liscard.
Wallasey.

MISS ISABELLA BIRRELL,
Female Sanitary Inspector.

JOHN McNALLY,
Chief Clerk.

GEORGE HENRY TRIGGS,
Assistant Clerk.

CHARLES A. HOLLAND,
Junior Clerk.

HENRY WOODROOFE,
Foreman and Timekeeper
(Flushers, Disinfectors, &c.)

ALEX. BAIN,
Drain Tester.

JAMES STEWART, WILLIAM WILLIAMS.
Disinfectors and Vanmen.

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF WALLASEY.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND
HOSPITAL COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you my Annual Report for 1904.

The return of Inhabited Houses in this District, as supplied to me by Mr. J. J. Burnley, the Accountant, is as follows:—

TABLE I.

				December 31st.		Increase.
				1904.	1903.	
Poulton-cum-Seacombe	..	..	..	4,321	4,241	80
Liscard	..	..	..	6,188	5,996	192
Wallasey	..	..	..	1,075	978	97
				11,584	11,215	369

This gives an increase of 369 inhabited houses for the year, making a total of 11,584. At the census of 1901, the average number for each house was 4.97, and the number of houses multiplied by this gives a population of 57,572.

My estimate for the middle of 1903 was 56,000, and as the natural increase of population (as will be presently shewn) amounted to 796, while the 369 newly inhabited houses multiplied by 4.97 give an increase of 1,833, I think we may fairly assume that 57,000 is not an excessive estimate for the mean population—*i.e.*, at the middle of 1904, especially as this takes no account of our floating population, *i.e.*, those on board vessels, flats, &c., in the Docks and our portion of the river. Mr. Burnley's estimate of inhabited houses is

necessarily uncertain, as the so-called compounded houses (for which rates are paid by the landlord) do not appear on the rate books, and their number is not accurately known. It will be noticed that Liscard claims the largest share of new property.

No. of
Deaths.

The deaths in 1904 amounted to 882, as compared with 765 in 1903, giving an increase of 117 in the number of recorded deaths in the District.

Death-rate.

This would give a Death-Rate of 15.47 per 1,000 per annum, but such is not the true Death-Rate, because of these deaths 28 were those of visitors, while on the other hand 60 persons belonging to our District died in Institutions in other places, viz. : 42 in Tranmere Workhouse, 17 in Liverpool Hospitals, and 1 in Warrington Workhouse.

$$882 \text{ less } 28 = 854.$$

$$854 \text{ plus } 60 = 914.$$

914 deaths therefore give a corrected Rate of 16.03

[The Registrar-General has introduced a still further correction to give, as far as possible, a uniformity for age and sex in the population of the 76 Great Towns, among which Wallasey now ranks. This was got at the Census of 1901 by ascertaining the age and sex of the population in these 76 Towns, and a factor has been ascertained for each Town. For Wallasey it is 1.0950. Our Death-Rate, 16.03, multiplied by the factor 1.0950, gives a Rate of 17.55—*i.e.*, the Rate corrected for variation of age and sex distribution.]

The Registrar-General credits us with a considerably lower Death-Rate, because he places our population at 60,354—on the estimate that we are increasing at the same ratio as we did between 1891 and 1901—which I am satisfied is a mistake ; but this is his basis for all Towns alike, as he does not go into any local details or seek local estimates. For instance, he gives our Death-Rate for 1903 as 13.86, instead of my estimated Rate of 14.03, while his so-called corrected Rate for 1903 is 15.18—*i.e.*, 13.86 multiplied by the factor 1.0950. Of the deaths, (as recorded in our District) 430 were males, and 452 females.

The Death-Rate for England and Wales was 16.2; for Rural England and Wales, 15.3; for the 76 Great Towns, 17.2; and for 142 smaller towns, 15.6.

Our Death-rate is therefore 0.1 below the English Rate and 1.2 below that of the 76 Great Towns, but 0.7 higher than the Rural Rate

Our Average Rate for the last ten years (1894 to 1903) is 15.63, so that this year's rate is 0.42 above the average for the last decade.

The Births numbered 1,678, as against 1,612 for the previous Births. year, giving respective Rates of 29.43 and 28.78.

This shows an increase of 66 births for the past year.

Of the Births, 868 were Males and 810 Females.

The natural increase in the Population—*i.e.*, the excess of Births over Deaths, was thus 796, as against 847 in 1903.

The Birth-Rate for England and Wales was 27.9; for Rural England and Wales, 26.8; for the 76 Great Towns, 29.1; and for 142 smaller Towns, 27.5; so that our Rate is 1.5 above the English Rate, and 0.3 above that of the 76 Great Towns.

The annexed Table gives a summary since 1898 of the numbers of Births and Deaths with the corresponding rates :—

TABLE II.

	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	Births and Deaths since 1898 with Rates.
Births	1,319	1,476	1,568	1,534	1,579	1,612	1 678	
Birth-Rate ..	28.18	30.12	30.15	28.40	28.70	28.78	29.43	
Deaths	774	788	860	773	753	765	882	
Death-Rate ..	16.53	16.08	16.53	14.31	13.69	13.66	16.03	

TABLE III.—Shows the distribution of the Births in the different Townships since 1899.

Births.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	Births in the Townships since 1899.
Poulton-cum-Seacombe ..	690	723	673	721	706	780	
Liscard	676	721	733	735	763	760	
Wallasey	110	124	128	123	143	138	

Deaths in the
Townships.TABLE IV.—Shows the number of Deaths in the different
Townships since 1899 with the corresponding rates :—

Deaths.	Poulton-cum- Seacombe.	Liscard.	Wallasey.
1899	343 (—17.30)	385 (—14.99)	60 (—17.14)
1900	381 (—18.95)	410 (—14.64)	69 (—17.69)
1901	355 (—16.98)	370 (—13.11)	51 (—12.14)
1902	318 (—15.14)	381 (—13.03)	54 (—11.58)
1903	299 (—14.08)	400 (—13.37)	66 (—13.55)
1904	356 (—16.58)	459 (—15.09)	67 (—13.06)

The number of Deaths for the Townships, as given above, does not correspond with that given in the large printed sheet, or in Table IV. of Local Government Board, because fatal cases in Hospitals are here referred to the Townships from which they came, and the Deaths in Tranmere Workhouse are not included, a separate estimate having been made so as to include them.

It will be seen from Table IV. that Wallasey comes out with the lowest Death-Rate, while Seacombe has the highest Death-Rate, as is to be expected in the poorest District.

Population of
the Town-
ships.

TABLE V.—Population of the Townships.

	Census. 1891.	Estimated at middle of 1901.	Census. 1901.	Estimated at middle of 1904.
Poulton-cum-Seacombe ..	14,900	20,900	20,749	21,470
Liscard	16,356	28,900	28,661	30,400
Wallasey	1,971	4,200	4,169	5,130
	<u>33,227</u>	<u>54,000</u>	<u>53,579</u>	<u>57,000</u>

Full information is given in the large sheet at the end of Report as to the Deaths of Males and Females, the different ages at Death, the Townships in which the Deaths took place, as well as the Deaths in Public Institutions (Hospitals, &c.), and amongst Non-residents; likewise as to the number of Deaths in each month and each quarter; with a detailed classification of the different causes of Death. Table III. of Local Government Board gives Statistics, apart from Mortality Returns, and is modelled now to suit the information derived from the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, so as to give the notified cases of each Disease in the different Townships, and the number removed

to the Isolation Hospital. Tables I. and III. are not printed in the Report in full, nor Tables II. and IV. of Local Government Board, but the figures are given in the text of my Report.

TABLE VI.—Showing the Mortality in the different Quarters of the Year.

TABLE VI.—

Mortality in
the Quarters.

1900	Quarters:	1st	244	2nd	201	3rd	222	4th	193
1901	„	„	194	„	177	„	213	„	189
1902	„	„	207	„	167	„	191	„	188
1903	„	„	196	„	182	„	192	„	195
1904	„	„	224	„	233	„	207	„	218

I give next the usual Meteorological Table furnished through the courtesy of Mr. Plummer, of Bidston Observatory :—

Liverpool Observatory, Bidston, Birkenhead.

Latitude $53^{\circ} 24' 5''$ North, Longitude $3^{\circ} 4' 20''$ West.

1904.	Mean Barometer. Inches.	Mean Temperature. °	Rainfall. Inches.
January	29.858	39.8	2.090
February	29.523	38.2	3.599
March	29.980	40.4	1.793
April	29.879	47.6	1.075
May	29.913	52.0	2.105
June	30.039	56.6	1.331
July	29.998	62.3	1.344
August	29.976	59.5	3.529
September	30.044	55.6	2.782
October	30.079	50.6	1.484
November	30.004	44.2	1.538
December	29.877	39.5	2.505
Total..			25.175

I also give here the interesting Local Table of Rainfall, registered and supplied by Dr. Wm. Bell, of St. George's Mount, New Brighton, which shows that the Rainfall in the Wallasey District is even less than at Bidston Hill.

Month.					Total Depth.	Greatest Fall in 24 Hours.		Number of Days with .01 or more recorded.
					Inches.	Depth.	Date.	
January	..	..	..	..	2.05	.39	30th	18
February	..	..	..	..	3.60	1.26	3rd	19
March	..	..	..	..	1.90	.37	7th	13
April	..	..	..	..	0.93	.13	6th	15
May	..	..	..	..	1.94	.50	31st	13
June	..	..	..	..	1.20	.46	9th	8
July	..	..	..	..	1.02	.36	25th	11
August	..	..	..	..	3.33	.75	21st	14
September	..	..	..	..	2.11	.72	2nd	8
October	..	..	..	..	1.73	.54	16th	12
November	..	..	..	..	1.64	.38	6th	11
December	..	..	..	..	2.52	.51	9th	15
TOTAL ..					23.97	..	..	157

A comparison between the above Table VI. and that for 1903 gives the following results as regards Temperature and Rainfall, the sign + meaning an increase for 1904 and the sign — a decrease for 1904:

					Mean Temperature in Degrees.	Rainfall. Inches.
January	..	..	..	..	—0.1	+0.105
February	..	..	..	..	—6.8	+2.000
March	..	..	..	..	—4.8	—0.199
April	..	..	..	..	+3.3	—0.614
May	..	..	..	..	+0.7	—0.404
June	..	..	..	..	+0.9	—0.584
July	..	..	..	..	+3.5	—0.995
August	..	..	..	..	+1.5	+0.155
September	..	..	..	..	+0.1	—1.534
October	..	..	..	..	—0.2	—5.888
November	..	..	..	..	—0.2	—1.227
December	..	..	..	..	+0.7	+0.942
					—1.4	—8.442

Thus for the whole of 1904 there was a decrease of Temperature amounting to 1.4 degrees.

It will be noticed that from the end of March to the end of September the average Temperature was continuously higher than in 1893, and in October and November only very little less. This long

continued steady rise of Temperature, together with the diminished Rainfall, bore fruit in the great increase of Infantile Diarrhœa, which proved so fatal a disease in 1904.

Details as to the diminished Rainfall are clearly put forth above, the whole decrease for the year amounting to 8.442 inches.

During the four hot months, the Deaths were, for Diarrhœa and Enteritis :—

	Diarrhœa.	Enteritis.	
July	8	1	= 9
August	33	0	= 33
September	16	2	= 18
October	4	2	= 6
	<hr/> 61	<hr/> 5	<hr/> <hr/> = 66

out of a total of 71 from these two diseases for the whole year.

The Deaths from Bronchitis and Pneumonia were 109 against 104 in 1903.

The next table gives the Mortality (from all causes) under one year, the so-called Infant Mortality, which is always looked on as an important index to the healthiness and sanitary conditions of a locality.

It also gives the number of deaths under 5 years of age.

TABLE VIII.

Year.	Infants under one year.	Rate of Infant Mortality per cent. of Deaths.	Rate of Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.	Under 5 Years.	Infant Mortality.
1896	168	27.40	143.3	224	
1897	213	28.94	168.3	334	
1898	221	28.55	167.5	296	
1899	241	30.58	163.2	328	
1900	208	24.18	132.6	276	
1901	219	28.33	142.7	293	
1902	172	22.84	108.9	242	
1903	183	23.92	113.5	269	
1904	265	30.04	157.9	385	

Thus there were 82 more deaths of Infants under one year in 1904 than in 1903.

This marked increase is very largely accounted for by the unusual prevalence and fatality of the three Zymotic Diseases, Measles, Whooping Cough and Diarrhœa.

Fatal
Infantile
Diseases.

The Infant Mortality for England and Wales per 1,000 Births was 146, and 160 for the 76 Great Towns, compared with our 157.9, so that our rate is 11.9 higher than the English Rate, but 2.1 less than that for the 76 Great Towns.

Details of Deaths under 1 year from 1901 from those diseases most fatal to Infants are here given.

	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Diarrhœa	43	9	23	50
Convulsions	21	15	14	24
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	28	31	20	31
Enteritis	4	7	11	9
Premature Birth	28	26	24	32
Atrophy and Debility ..	49	35	38	44
Total	<u>173</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>130</u>	<u>190</u>

Add to this increase of 60, 20 deaths from Whooping Cough under 1 year, and 9 from Measles, and the great increase in the number of Infant Deaths is more than accounted for.

42 persons belonging to the Wallasey District died in Tranmere Workhouse, and 17 in Liverpool Institutions; also 1 in Hospital elsewhere, making 60 in all, while out of our 882 Deaths, 28 were Visitors. This gives, as before mentioned, 914 Deaths instead of 882 recorded, as actually occurring in the District.

Out of the total number of Deaths, 184 were over 65 years, and of these 18 were over 85 years.

15 out of the 882 Deaths were not certified either by a registered Medical Practitioner or by a Coroner, which gives a percentage of 1.7 of uncertified Deaths, as compared with 1.6 for England and Wales.

57 Inquests were held during the year, as against 69 in 1903, equal to a percentage of 6.4 Deaths certified by a Coroner, compared with 6.5 for England and Wales.

There were 10 Drowning cases in 1904, 6 of these being non-residents.

To different forms of violence (including the Drowning cases), 35 Deaths were referred, being in the proportion of 0.61 per 1,000 of the population, compared with an English Rate of 0.57. Our sea, river, and docks frontage largely adds to our Drowning cases, and so increases our rate from Violent Deaths.

I now give an analysis of the large sheet, which supplies a complete statement of particulars of all the deaths during the year. The subjoined tabular synopsis gives a useful survey of the different classes of diseases, with the mortality of each, both in absolute numbers and in rates per 1,000 per annum. It also gives the mortality of the leading forms under each class with the exception of Zymotics, which are given in fuller detail in the succeeding Table.

Analysis of
Deaths (see
Sheet at end
of Report.)

TABLE IX.

Classes.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
ZYMOTICS	94—1.82	122—2.25	67—1.21	75—1.33	163—2.85
CONSTITUTIONAL	126—2.03	115	127—2.30	123—2.19	120—2.10
Cancer	36	42	32	33	42
Phthisis	47	53	64	52—0.92	51—0.89
LOCAL DISEASES	470—9.03	371—6.87	401—7.29	378—6.75	425—7.45
Apoplexy	37	35	41	30	51
Convulsions	36	24	17	20	29
Brain Disease, in- cluding Meningitis	15	29	22	28	27
Heart Disease ..	82	71	65	75	83
Bronchitis	60	40	60	40	49
Pneumonia	73	76	86	64	60
Liver Disease ..	8	9	12	6	12
Bright's Disease ..	6	4	6	7	8
DEVELOPMENTAL	104—2.00	119—2.20	104—1.89	119—2.12	118—2.07
Premature Birth ..	24	28	26	24	32
Old Age	31	25	34	32	33
Atrophy and Debility	41	49	37	41	45
DROWNING	15	8	8	14	10

The first class, viz., Zymotics, is fully detailed in the succeeding Table X.

The next Table shews the deaths from Zymotics, confining the term to those reckoned as such in the Registrar-General's Returns and in all Health Reports. The full list of Zymotics is given in the large printed sheet, which will be found at the end of this Report.

TABLE X.—Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.

ZYMOTICS—	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Total	82	84	95	122	67	75	163
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Measles	6	16	26	5	12	3	32
Scarlet Fever.. ..	11	5	4	5	5	18	8
Diphtheria and Croup ..	5	10	3	12	5	3	12
Whooping Cough ..	19	3	22	15	17	10	42
Fever (Typhoid)	9	11	17	31	12	5	7
Diarrhoea	32	39	23	54	16	35	62
Rate per 1,000 of population	1.75	1.71	1.82	2.25	1.21	1.33	2.85
English Rate do.	2.22	2.21	2.00	2.05	1.64	1.46	1.94

Our average Zymotic Rate for the last 10 years (1894 to 1903) was 1.76, as compared with 1.85 in 1903, so that for the past year the rate is 1.09 higher than the average for the last 10 years. The Zymotic Rate in England and Wales was 1.94 per 1,000, as compared with our 2.85, so that ours is 0.71 higher than the English Rate. The Rate, deducting the Zymotic Rate, is 13.20 per 1,000.

For the 76 Great Towns the Zymotic Rate was 2.49 per 1,000 in 1904, so that ours is greater by 0.46—a very unusual occurrence.

TABLE XI.—Shows Localities of Fatal Zymotic Cases.

(M.L.H.—MILL LANE HOSPITAL.)

(V.C.H.—VICTORIA CENTRAL HOSPITAL.)

(L.R.H.—LEASOWE ROAD SMALLPOX HOSPITAL.)

(W.C.H.—WALLASEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL.)

MEASLES.

- (1) February .. Creek Side, Poulton.
- (2) March .. Guildford Street, Egremont.
- (3) „ .. Denton Drive, Liscard.
- (4) April .. Guildford Street, Egremont.
- (5) „ .. Whitford Terrace, Egremont.
- (6) „ .. Fairview Avenue, Liscard.
- (7) „ .. Silverlea Avenue, Liscard.

- | | | | |
|------|---------|----|-------------------------------|
| (8) | April | .. | Silverlea Avenue, Liscard. |
| (9) | „ | .. | Liscard Road, Liscard. |
| (10) | „ | .. | Brook Street, Liscard. |
| (11) | „ | .. | Union Street, Egremont. |
| (12) | May | .. | Hawthorndale Road, Poulton. |
| (13) | „ | .. | Rankin Street, Poulton. |
| (14) | „ | .. | Scott Street, Liscard. |
| (15) | „ | .. | Moseley Avenue, Liscard. |
| (16) | „ | .. | Egerton Street, New Brighton. |
| (17) | „ | .. | Rossett Place, Liscard. |
| (18) | „ | .. | Shakespeare Road, Poulton. |
| (19) | „ | .. | Stanley Street, Seacombe. |
| (20) | June | .. | Sutton Road, New Brighton. |
| (21) | „ | .. | Egerton Street, New Brighton. |
| (22) | „ | .. | Wallasey Road, Wallasey. |
| (23) | „ | .. | Limekiln Lane, Poulton. |
| (24) | „ | .. | Meadow Street, New Brighton. |
| (25) | „ | .. | The Avenue, New Brighton. |
| (26) | „ | .. | Green Lane, Egremont. |
| (27) | July | .. | Kelvin Road, Seacombe. |
| (28) | August | .. | Percy Road, Seacombe. |
| (29) | „ | .. | Hawthorndale Road, Poulton. |
| (30) | „ | .. | Fell Street, Seacombe. |
| (31) | October | .. | Beechwood Avenue, Wallasey. |
| (32) | „ | .. | Hawthorne Grove, Seacombe. |

SCARLATINA.

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------|----|---------------------------------|
| (1) | April | .. | M.L.H. Mill Lane, Poulton. |
| (2) | „ | .. | M.L.H. Sandfield Road, Liscard. |
| (3) | September | | M.L.H. Geneva Road, Poulton. |
| (4) | „ | .. | M.L.H. Ellis Street, Seacombe. |
| (5) | November | | M.L.H. Milton Road, Poulton. |
| (6) | „ | .. | M.L.H. Milton Road, Poulton. |
| (7) | December | .. | Dudley Road, New Brighton. |
| (8) | „ | .. | M.L.H. Wright Street, Egremont. |

DIPHTHERIA.

- | | | | |
|-----|----------|----|----------------------------------|
| (1) | February | .. | Cromer Drive, Wallasey. |
| (2) | April | .. | M.L.H. Wheatland Lane, Seacombe. |
| (3) | June | .. | Wentworth Avenue, Liscard. |
| (4) | July | .. | M.L.H. Demesne Street, Seacombe. |

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|-----|------------|--------------------------------------|
| (5) | October | M.L.H. Egerton Street, New Brighton. |
| (6) | „ .. | Littledale Road, Seacombe. |
| (7) | „ .. | Beaconsfield Road, Seacombe. |
| (8) | December.. | Stonehouse Road, Wallasey. |
| (9) | „ .. | Grosvenor Drive, New Brighton. |

MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

- | | | |
|-----|------------|------------------------------------|
| (1) | January .. | Seymour Place, East, New Brighton. |
| (2) | November | Wellington Road, New Brighton. |
| (3) | December.. | M.L.H. Ashville Road, Poulton. |

WHOOPIING COUGH.

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|------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| (1) | January: .. | Coningsby Drive, Liscard. |
| (2) | „ .. | Whitford Terrace, Egremont. |
| (3) | „ .. | Coningsby Drive, Liscard. |
| (4) | February .. | Palatine Road, Seacombe. |
| (5) | „ .. | Pleasant Street, New Brighton. |
| (6) | „ .. | Lancaster Avenue, Liscard. |
| (7) | „ .. | Liscard Grove, Liscard. |
| (8) | „ .. | Field Cottages, Liscard. |
| (9) | „ .. | The Village, Wallasey. |
| (10) | „ .. | Tobin Street, Egremont. |
| (11) | „ .. | Rossett Place, Liscard. |
| (12) | „ .. | Elm Cottage, Wallasey. |
| (13) | March .. | Havelock Street, Seacombe. |
| (14) | „ .. | Cherrybank Road, Poulton. |
| (15) | „ .. | Mona Place, Seacombe. |
| (16) | „ .. | Walmsley Street, Liscard. |
| (17) | „ .. | Elm Cottage, Wallasey. |
| (18) | „ .. | Hope Street, New Brighton. |
| (19) | „ .. | Sutton Road, New Brighton. |
| (20) | „ .. | Russell Road, Wallasey. |
| (21) | „ .. | Withens Lane, Liscard. |
| (22) | „ .. | Rice Lane, Egremont. |
| (23) | April .. | Victoria Road, Seacombe. |
| (24) | „ .. | Primrose Grove, Seacombe. |
| (25) | „ .. | Victoria Road, Seacombe. |
| (26) | „ .. | St. Paul's Road, Seacombe. |
| (27) | „ .. | St. Paul's Road, Seacombe. |
| (28) | „ .. | Westview, Liscard. |
| (29) | „ .. | Creek Side Cottages, Poulton. |
| (30) | „ .. | Northview Terrace, Egremont. |
| (31) | „ .. | Penkett Road, Liscard. |

- | | | | |
|------|-----------|----|-------------------------------|
| (32) | May | .. | Sandridge Road, New Brighton. |
| (33) | „ | .. | Egerton Street, New Brighton. |
| (34) | „ | .. | Wheatland Lane, Seacombe. |
| (35) | „ | .. | Silverlea Avenue, Liscard. |
| (36) | „ | .. | Shaw Street, Seacombe. |
| (37) | June | .. | Duke Street, New Brighton. |
| (38) | July | .. | Edgmond Street, Seacombe. |
| (39) | „ | .. | St. Paul's Road, Seacombe. |
| (40) | „ | | Tulip Grove, Seacombe. |
| (41) | September | | Byerley Street, Seacombe. |
| (42) | November | | Russell Road, Wallasey. |

TYPHOID.

- | | | | |
|-----|------------|----|-----------------------------------|
| (1) | January | .. | Rosebery Avenue, Egremont. |
| (2) | February | .. | M.L.H. Havelock Street, Seacombe. |
| (3) | August | .. | M.L.H. King Street, Egremont. |
| (4) | September | | M.L.H. Hope Street, New Brighton. |
| (5) | November | | Brentwood Street, Poulton. |
| (6) | December.. | | Derwent Drive, Liscard. |
| (7) | „ | .. | Waverley Street, Seacombe. |

DIARRHŒA.

- | | | | |
|------|--------|----|-----------------------------------|
| (1) | May | .. | Harrowby Road, Seacombe. |
| (2) | July | .. | St. Paul's Road, Seacombe. |
| (3) | „ | .. | Holland Road, Liscard. |
| (4) | „ | .. | Brotherton Street, Seacombe. |
| (5) | „ | .. | Larch Road, Poulton. |
| (6) | „ | .. | Moseley Avenue, Liscard. |
| (7) | „ | .. | Hawthorne Grove, Seacombe. |
| (8) | „ | .. | Milton Road, Poulton. |
| (9) | „ | .. | Hawthorndale Road, Poulton. |
| (10) | August | .. | Woodview Avenue, Seacombe. |
| (11) | „ | .. | Waverley Street, Seacombe. |
| (12) | „ | .. | Geneva Road, Poulton. |
| (13) | „ | .. | Hawthorne Grove, Seacombe. |
| (14) | „ | .. | Sherlock Lane, Poulton. |
| (15) | „ | .. | Cardigan Road, New Brighton. |
| (16) | „ | .. | Rappart Road, Seacombe. |
| (17) | „ | .. | St. Paul's Bridle Road, Seacombe. |
| (18) | „ | .. | Hawthorne Grove, Seacombe. |
| (19) | „ | .. | Burns Avenue, Liscard. |
| (20) | „ | .. | Geneva Road, Poulton. |

(21)	August	..	Liscard Road, Egremont.
(22)	„	..	Bisley Street, Liscard.
(23)	„	..	Kelvin Road, Seacombe.
(24)	„	..	Clayton Lane, Poulton.
(25)	„	..	Acacia Grove, Seacombe.
(26)	„	..	Ashville Road, Poulton.
(27)	„	..	Massey Park, Wallasey.
(28)	„	..	King Street, Egremont.
(29)	„	..	Stonehouse Road, Wallasey.
(30)	„	..	Rankin Street, Poulton.
(31)	„	..	Rice Hey Road, Egremont.
(32)	„	..	Tabor Street, Seacombe.
(33)	„	..	Mersey Street, Seacombe.
(34)	„	..	Evelyn Road, Seacombe.
(35)	„	..	Gladstone Road, Seacombe.
(36)	„	..	Wheatland Lane Seacombe.
(37)	„	..	Byron Road, Poulton.
(38)	„	..	Beechwood Avenue, Wallasey.
(39)	„	..	Silverlea Avenue, Liscard.
(40)	„	..	Havelock Street, Seacombe.
(41)	„	..	Larch Road, Poulton.
(42)	„	..	Hawthorndale Road, Poulton.
(43)	September		Hatherley Street, Seacombe.
(44)	„		Moreton Grove, Wallasey.
(45)	„		Demesne Street, Seacombe.
(46)	„		Demesne Street, Seacombe.
(47)	„		Clarence Road, Poulton.
(48)	„		Silverlea Avenue, Liscard.
(49)	„		Mersey Street, Seacombe.
(50)	„		Granville Terrace, Wallasey.
(51)	„		Abbotsford Street, Seacombe.
(52)	„		Townfield Lane, Liscard.
(53)	„		Palermo Street, Seacombe.
(54)	„		Palermo Street, Seacombe.
(55)	„		Selby Street, Liscard.
(56)	„		Brighton Street, Seacombe.
(57)	„		Portia Street, Poulton.
(58)	„		Rankin Street, Poulton.
(59)	October		Wheatland Lane, Poulton.
(60)			Bidston Avenue, Wallasey.
(61)	„		Sutton Road, New Brighton.
(62)	„		Havelock Street, Seacombe.

In connection with the local list given above, reference may be made here to the map given at the end of the Report, where by means of differently shaped or coloured marks, the localities of the various fatal Zymotic cases are easily seen at a glance.

TABLE XII.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified in the Urban District of Wallasey during the Year ending December 31st, 1904.

TOWNSHIPS.				Smallpox.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Erysipela ^s .	Scarlatina.	Typhus.	Typhoid.	Puerperal.	TOTALS.	
Poulton- cum- Seac'mbe	{	Poulton . .	{	Under 5.	—	4	1	1	15	—	2	—	23
				Over 5.	—	2	—	6	27	—	3	1	39
{	Seacombe . .	{	Under 5.	—	3	—	2	23	—	—	—	28	
			Over 5.	2	9	—	6	47	—	13	2	79	
{	Egremont . .	{	Under 5.	—	2	—	—	13	—	—	—	15	
			Over 5.	1	4	—	5	32	—	8	—	50	
{	Liscard . .	{	Under 5.	—	1	—	2	7	—	2	—	12	
			Over 5.	1	7	—	10	45	—	4	1	68	
{	New Brighton	{	Under 5.	—	3	2	—	11	—	3	—	19	
			Over 5.	2	6	—	4	29	—	3	—	44	
Wallasey	{	{	Under 5.	—	1	—	—	9	—	—	—	10	
			Over 5.	—	10	—	3	12	—	1	—	26	
Totals				Under 5.	—	14	3	5	78	—	7	—	107
				Over 5.	6	38	—	34	192	—	32	4	306

413

413

NOTE.—For the purpose of more defined Localisation :—Poulton includes that portion of Poulton-cum-Seacombe Township to the West of Wheatland Lane ; Liscard Township is above divided into Egremont (portion of Liscard between Seacombe and Green Lane) ; Liscard Proper, including Liscard Village, Magazines, and on to Magazine Lane and Mount Pleasant, and New Brighton, including rest of Liscard Township.

An examination of Tables X. and XI. speedily shows that the mortality from Zymotic Diseases during the year 1904 was far in excess of our Average Rates. In 1897 the Rate was 2.72, and in 1887 it was 3.44—when Measles, Whooping Cough and Diarrhoea were all very fatal—causing 73 Deaths in a population then numbering about 27,000 only. During the past year the same three Diseases proved specially fatal (See Table X.), and it is due to this fact that the deaths from the seven chief Zymotic Diseases have reached the large figure of 163 and that our Zymotic Rate is 1.09 above the English Rate and even 0.46 above that of the 76 Great Towns.

Details will now be given as to the different Zymotic Diseases.

6 cases of Smallpox were notified, with no fatal case. 5 of these Smallpox. were removed to Leasowe Road Hospital. The remaining case was that of an Engineer, who came home from his steam-ship (which arrived

in a port in South Wales), and immediately developed the disease, having evidently been infected before he left the ship. He had a comparatively mild attack and was very efficiently isolated at home.

Of the others, 2 occurred in March—1 in Seacombe and 1 in Egremont; 1 in April in Seacombe; and finally 2 in September in Upper Brighton. These latter were husband and wife, the husband, who first took the disease, being employed at some works in Seacombe. It was impossible to trace the origin here. One of the Seacombe cases was clearly infected from a relative who was treated for Smallpox in a Hospital in a neighbouring District. Only one was a severe confluent case.

The English Rate was 0.01 both for the whole country and the 76 Great Towns, against *nil* for our District.

Smallpox
Cases since
1885.

The following Table will show the number of cases of Smallpox occurring in our District from 1885 to 1904.

1885.—2 cases notified—none fatal.

1886.—3 cases notified—2 fatal.

1887 }
to } No cases notified.
1892 }

1893.—1 case notified—not fatal.

1894.—1 case notified—not fatal.

1895.—5 cases notified—none fatal.

1896 }
to } No cases notified.
1900 }

1901.—1 case notified—not fatal.

1902.—40 cases notified—none fatal.

1903.—26 cases notified—1 fatal.

1904.—6 cases notified—none fatal.

Measles.

32 fatal cases of Measles occurred in 1904, as against 3 in 1903 and 12 in 1902. This gives a mortality of 0.56 per 1,000 compared with an English mortality of 0.36, and 0.47 for the 76 Great Towns.

11 fatal cases occurred in Poulton-cum-Seacombe, 20 in Liscard, and 1 in Wallasey Township. Cases were scattered all over the year, but April, May and June were the months in which this disease was most prevalent, 8 deaths occurring in April, 8 in May, and 7 in June (v. large Sheet of Deaths at end of Report).

The accompanying Table shows how seriously the School attendance was affected by this disease and by Whooping Cough, a closing order having been issued in 8 cases—details of which are given in the Table.

LIST OF SCHOOLS CLOSED DURING 1904 ON ACCOUNT OF EPIDEMIC ILLNESS.

Name of School.	Date and Period of Closing.	Reason for Closing.
SCHOOL LANE, WALLASEY (Infant Department)	January 16th for three weeks	Prevalence of Whooping Cough.
EGERTON STREET (Infant Department)	February 22nd for three weeks	Prevalence of Whooping Cough and Chicken-pox.
ST. MARY'S (Infant Department)	April 12th for three weeks	Epidemic of Measles and Whooping Cough.
RAKE LANE (All Departments)	April 13th for three weeks	Epidemic of Measles and Whooping Cough.
ST. JAMES', Magazine Lane (All Departments)	April 28th until May 21st	Epidemic of Measles.
ST. JAMES', Egerton Street (Infant Department)	May 11th until May 30th	Prevalence of Whooping Cough and Measles.
ST. PAUL'S (Infant Department)	June 29 to commence- ment of Summer holi- days (July 7th)	Extensive prevalence, and continued increase of Measles.
POULTON INFANTS' SCHOOL (Limekiln Lane)	July 1st to commence- ment of Summer holi- days (July 7th)	Prevalence of Measles.

Whooping Cough caused 42 deaths, as compared with 10 in the Whooping Cough.
previous year. It began to prevail extensively in December, 1903, and continued throughout 1904, but chiefly in the first half of the year, the deaths in the different months being as shown below :—

Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
3	9	10	9	5	1	3	0	1	0	1	0

These 42 deaths give a rate of 0.73 per 1,000 compared with an English Rate of 0.34 and 0.40 for the 76 Great Towns.

With this serious mortality, and with the extensive interference in the matter of School closing detailed above, it is well to repeat the remarks made in a previous Report on this subject.

“ It is very hard to convince parents that children suffering from
 “ Whooping Cough ought to be kept indoors during cold or wet weather,
 “ till they are convalescent. The popular fallacy that they ought to be
 “ taken out, especially to the riverside or seashore, is still firmly impressed
 “ on the mothers by kind and officious friends, and the result in too many
 “ cases is Bronchitis or Pneumonia that carries the child off. Indeed,
 “ Whooping Cough of itself is rarely fatal, but these complications readily
 “ set in on exposure to cold, and are very fatal.”

Scarlet
Fever.

Scarlatina (Scarlet Fever), which was very prevalent during 1903, continued all through the past year, though not to such an extent. Thus, while 440 cases were notified in 1903, the number fell to 270 in 1904. There were 8 fatal cases, giving a mortality of 0.14 per 1,000 compared with an English Rate of 0.11, and 0.12 for the 76 Great Towns.

The mortality per cent. of notified cases is 2.9 compared with 4.1 in 1903. 170 cases were treated in Mill Lane Hospital compared with 309 in 1903 and 199 in 1902. 7 out of the 8 fatal cases died in Hospital, for the most severe cases naturally occur in the poorer classes for the most part, and go to Hospital. Although, as a rule, the cases were of a mild type, yet towards the latter part of the year there were many cases with severe attacks of bad throat, complicated with discharges from the nose and ears.

On the other hand, many cases were so mild as to be overlooked by the parents for some time, and such cases spread the disease both in the family and amongst the school children, when an overlooked case is allowed to go on attending school. With our large population, and with our position close to Liverpool and Birkenhead, involving free communication between relatives and friends in these two cities, it seems very difficult to keep free from this fever for any length of time, as fresh infection so constantly occurs, and we, no doubt, contribute our share in spreading it to other places in spite of all the precautions that are taken. As a rule, teachers are too much preoccupied with their own arduous duties to be constantly on the outlook for such slight cases, and also have not the power to detect them, but whenever any suspicious sore throat or rash appears

the child should be sent home with instructions to the parents to call in medical aid. Indeed, many mild cases have occurred where it was most difficult to determine whether it was really Scarlatina or not, and the only course was to isolate the patient and wait to see if peeling followed.

Table XI. shows the localities of the fatal cases; Table XII. the distribution of the notified cases in the different Townships, and Table XIII. the notifications month by month.

TABLE XIII.—

Typhoid Notifications in 1904.		Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Seacombe		4	—	1	1	—	—	—	4	4	—	3	1	18
Lisc'rd {	Egremont	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	8
	Liscard (Proper)	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	1	—	6
	New Brighton	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	—	6
Wallasey		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals		8	2	1	1	—	—	3	9	7	3	4	1	39

Scarlatina Notifications in 1904.		Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Seacombe		9	6	8	5	6	2	9	6	13	7	25	16	112
Lisc'rd {	Egremont	1	2	2	—	1	4	5	3	6	9	12	—	45
	Liscard (Proper)	7	12	7	2	1	2	3	3	6	4	4	1	52
	New Brighton	4	2	1	3	—	1	3	1	8	11	2	4	40
Wallasey		—	4	3	—	—	—	2	1	5	1	4	1	21
Totals		21	26	21	10	8	9	22	14	38	32	47	22	270

Diphtheria caused 9 deaths in 1904, and Membranous Croup 3, as compared with 3 deaths in 1903 from these two diseases.

Diphtheria
and
Membranous
Croup

Table XI. shows the localities and months of the fatal cases.

52 cases of Diphtheria were notified and 3 of Membranous Croup. The 12 Deaths give a mortality of 0.21 per 1,000 and a percentage of 21.8 among the notified cases—an unusually high mortality for our District, where Diphtheria has not been either very prevalent or very fatal as a rule.

32 cases of Diphtheria were admitted into Mill Lane Hospital, and 1 of Membranous Croup. Only 1 fatal case of Diphtheria was recorded in Mill Lane Hospital.

The English Rate was 0.17, and for the 76 Great Towns, 0.19.

Diarrhoea.

Diarrhoea caused 62 deaths in 1904, as compared with 35 in 1903. This term now includes all deaths registered under Diarrhoea, Zymotic Diarrhoea, Zymotic Enteritis and Dysentery. Only 9 deaths were certified as simple Enteritis by medical men during the past year, and probably most of these were Diarrhoea cases, as all were under 1 year.

These 62 deaths give a mortality of 1.08 per 1,000, or 36.9 per 1,000 Births, while the Enteritis mortality is 5.3 per 1,000 Births. The English Rate for Diarrhoea was 0.86, and 1.20 for the 76 Great Towns. In spite, therefore, of our numerous deaths, our rate is 0.12 below the average rate of the Great Towns.

In 1903, our rate was 0.62 per 1,000.

Last year, during the four months of July, August, September and October, when nearly all the deaths from Diarrhoea occurred—(61 out of the 62 in 1904) the rainfall was 8.262 inches less than in the four corresponding months of 1903, while the Temperature was 4.9 degrees higher for the same four months. In July the mean Temperature was 62.3, in August 59.5, and even in June it reached 56.6, so paving the way for the outbreak in July. These two causes, higher temperature and greatly lessened rainfall, appear to be the chief reasons why we had so many fatal cases.

See Meteorological Table page 9.

50 out of the 62 were infants under 1 year of age.

TABLE XIV.—Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis.

	Total. 1898.	Total. 1899.	Total. 1900.	Total. 1901.	Total. 1902.	Total. 1903.	Total. 1904.
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis in Oakdale and Wheat- land Lane Districts.	85	82	49	54	24	48	71
	29	13	16	15	4	14	22

Of these 22 deaths, 21 were from Diarrhœa—16 in the Wheatland Lane area, 5 in Oakdale, while there was only one from Enteritis in the Wheatland Lane District and none in Oakdale.

Miss Birrell, the Female Sanitary Inspector, has again done good work in this special department.

Although her Report deals with various other matters, it is convenient to introduce it here, as so much of her work has to do with the care and feeding of Infants. It contains most interesting details, and I hope to see excellent results from the result of her numerous visits.

The question of providing premises for the preparation of Sterilised and Humanised Milk for Infants was carefully considered by the Health Committee, and a deputation visited the chief depôt in Liverpool and saw all the details of the work carried on there. They were most favourably impressed by the Liverpool system, but it was found the expense for this District would be great, especially as in many instances, it is not really the poorest classes who avail themselves of this milk supply, and also as one depôt would probably not suffice for the whole District; but the matter is still under consideration.

Report from Female Sanitary Inspector for 1904.

“ I beg to report that, as was the case in the preceding year, ^{House-to-house} house-to-house visitation amongst the poorer classes has engaged ^{Visitation.} most of the time and attention of the Female Inspector. Each family is seen in their own room or house, the requirements of the Health Committee as to cleanliness, etc., explained, and the advantages resulting from their observance pointed out.

“ Specially dirty families are re-visited at frequent intervals, ^{Dirty Families.} and the street is systematically re-visited every three or four months if circumstances permit. In the lowest streets the work is much impeded by the frequent removal of the people; it is no uncommon thing in these streets to find in about three months that half the people have removed.

“ Very little time is occupied in re-visiting the clean families,
 “ but much time is devoted to those who neglect their houses and
 “ children, and attention is given to those who are suspected of
 “ having cleaned up in anticipation of the Inspector’s visit.

“ In many cases much improvement has resulted. The
 “ advantages of fresh air and cleanliness have been explained,
 “ and a greater frequency in the opening of windows and a
 “ diminution in the amount of objectionable refuse found in the
 “ rooms, and especially in the bedrooms, has been noticed.
 “ Twelve mattresses, which were found to be in a filthy and
 “ verminous condition, have been destroyed during the year.

Dirty
Bedding.

“ Attention has been paid to cases where habits of drunken-
 “ ness, indolence and improvidence have been noticed, and a
 “ certain amount of improvement has resulted; but such cases
 “ require constant supervision in order to prevent them lapsing
 “ into the old careless ways. In cases of sickness, the friends of
 “ the sick persons are influenced to seek medical treatment or
 “ admission into hospital.

Structural
and |||
Sanitary
Defects.

“ Structural and sanitary defects, and cases of overcrowding,
 “ are brought under the notice of the Departments having control
 “ of such matters.

Infant
Feeding.

“ Much ignorance, and not a little carelessness, still prevails
 “ on the subject of infant feeding. Special enquiries are always
 “ made at the time of visit as to the method of feeding, and
 “ instruction is given verbally where necessary. A memorandum
 “ of simple instructions was widely distributed—amongst the
 “ poorer classes—at the commencement of summer. These
 “ instructions, whilst indicating the method by which infants
 “ should be fed, point out also the importance of cleanliness of
 “ person, clothing and surroundings. In many cases these
 “ leaflets have been followed by good results.

Infantile
Diarrhoea.

“ Where cases of Infantile Diarrhoea were discovered in the
 “ course of house-to-house visitation, the use of sterilised
 “ humanised milk was advocated, and the method of preparing it

“ shown to those mothers who seemed sufficiently interested in the Sterilised
 “ matter. In every case in which this preparation was used, Humanised
 “ excellent results were obtained. Milk.

“ In most cases, long-tube bottles were found to be in use, Long-tube
 “ the majority of the tubes being foul, even where the bottles Bottles.
 “ were perfectly sweet. On the advantages of boat-shaped
 “ bottles being explained, many of the mothers have discarded
 “ the long tube-bottles in favour of the others.

“ During the autumn, enquiry visits were paid to houses at Enquiry
 “ which deaths from Infantile Diarrhoea had occurred. Out of Visits re
 “ 53 cases visited, only one was found to have been entirely Fatal
 “ breast-fed (and this child was twelve months old), nine were Infantile
 “ partially breast-fed, and the remaining 43 were entirely Diarrhoea.
 “ artificially fed, the majority of these having received food
 “ unsuitable for young infants.

AGE AT DEATH.

Under 12 months.	Between 1—2 years.	Between 2—3 years.
47	8	1

Average age at death=7.9 months.

METHOD OF FEEDING AT TIME OF DEATH.

Breast-Fed.	Partly Breast, Partly Bottle.	Bottle-Fed.
1	9	43

“ Several of the schools in the district have been regularly School
 “ visited, and enquiries made regarding children in attendance in Visitation.
 “ a dirty or neglected condition.

“ Those reported are visited at their homes until a marked
 “ improvement in their condition is observed.

“ Letter cards are distributed to all the Head-teachers, in
 “ order that such cases may be reported to the Health Department
 “ as they arise. Fortunately, such cases are comparatively rare.

“ As in the preceding year, workshops employing female Workshop
 “ labour have been visited. Inspection.

“ No overcrowding was discovered, and few rooms were found
“ in a dirty condition—of these, all were cleansed on the occasion
“ of the next visit.

“ The general condition as regards cleanliness, ventilation,
“ and air space is very good.

Typhoid
Fever.

Typhoid Fever caused 7 deaths, as against 5 in 1903 (See Tables A. and B.). This gives a mortality of 0.12 per 1,000, compared with an English Fever Rate of 0.09, and 0.10 in the 76 Great Towns. These two rates are for Continued Fever which includes Typhus and Simple Continued Fever, but practically it is a Typhoid Rate. Our Rate is thus 0.2 above that of the Great Towns. The number of fatal cases was somewhat disappointing, for only 39 cases were notified, as against 47 in 1903 (with 5 deaths). This gives a mortality of 17.9 per cent. of notified cases, so that though the notified cases were fewer than in any year since Notification was adopted (1889), yet the case mortality was heavy, owing to many of the cases being of a serious type.

The diminished number of notified cases shows that we continue to reap the advantage of the extensive sewer and drain re-constructions that have been carried out of late years, and are still being carried out, as will be seen by the Reports given under the headings of sewers and drains on pages 30 to 32.

TABLE A.—

TYPHOID FEVER.

	Total Deaths.	Notifications.	Total Notifications in Oakdale District. and Wheatland Lane District.	
1895	8	67	9	11
1896	10	112	6	12
1897	9	93	3	7
1898	9	87	6	5
1899	11	132	3	7
1900	17	163	9	24
1901	31	257	5	67
1902	12	64	1	21
1903	5	47	4	7
1904	7	39	2	2 (in same house)

The following Table shows in a striking form the deaths from Typhoid for the last 16 years, with corresponding rates per 1,000 of Population.

TABLE B.

Year.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.	Notified Cases.
1889	12	0.36	—
1890	9	0.26	42
1891	20	0.59	77
1892	20	0.57	62
1893	23	0.64	132
1894	13	0.35	89
1895	8	0.20	67
1896	10	0.24	112
1897	9	0.20	93
1898	9	0.19	87
1899	11	0.23	132
1900	17	0.32	163
1901	31	0.57	257
1902	12	0.21	64
1903	5	0.08	47
1904	7	0.12	39

24 cases were admitted to Mill Lane Hospital, with 4 deaths. In 1903, 31 cases were admitted; in 1902, 46; and in 1901, 154 cases. These figures show to what an extent this disease is diminishing in our District, and is, I consider, a most satisfactory and gratifying proof that the efforts to cope with Typhoid have been successful in great measure.

Tables XII. and XIII. give further information as to the localities and dates of notified cases.

From the statistics as to Zymotic Diseases given above, it will be seen, as was stated before, that 1904 was a bad year for this District. In Measles, Scarlatina, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, and Typhoid, our rate is slightly above that of the Great Towns, while it is lower in the case of Diarrhœa, and nil in Smallpox.

In 1903, it was only in Scarlet Fever that our Rate exceeded that of the Great Towns. A bad year is bound to come at intervals ; but, as I have stated, it is many years since we had such a combination of highly fatal Zymotics.

Influenza caused 5 deaths in 1904, as against 13 in 1903 ; 2 occurred in January, 2 in March, and 1 in April.

I add now an account of the work done by the Works Department in connection with sewers, furnished to me by Mr. Travers, and also an account of the work done in connection with house drains by the Public Health Department. In all cases of Typhoid, where the examination leaves the condition of the drains in doubt, we uncover such drains, and if they are found defective, we get the whole re-laid properly.

Report on Sewers for 1904.

“ During the year 1904 considerable sewerage improvements
 “ have been taken in hand, the most important being the commence-
 “ ment of the work of sewerage a portion of the Leasowe Road
 “ section of the low lying area of Wallasey on Shone’s Hydro-
 “ Pneumatic System. The work is approaching completion,
 “ the ejectors being now in use for the occasional lifting of water
 “ from the sewer trenches. Another important work has been
 “ the removal of the defective sewer in Falkland Road and the
 “ substitution of a new sewer under a Local Government Board
 “ sanction. In connection with this work the levels were
 “ re-arranged and a special manhole was built in Liscard Road
 “ making it possible to use the Falkland Road sewer as a storm
 “ overflow from the Liscard Road sewer. The work of repairing
 “ and re-inverting the main brick sewer along King Street and
 “ Brighton Street has been commenced and that portion between
 “ Trafalgar Road and Rice Lane (370 yards) has been completed.
 “ This main brick sewer (one of the oldest in the district) is in

“ an exceedingly dilapidated condition. The whole of the
 “ manholes in the district have been washed down and disinfected
 “ with Chloros. This has been attended with very good results,
 “ as although the summer of 1904 was an exceedingly dry one
 “ very few complaints of smells, etc., were received.

“ A number of new manholes and flushing chambers have
 “ been built, and ventilating shafts erected, and a large number
 “ of new gullies have been fixed in various parts of the district.
 “ The usual sewer flushing and disinfecting throughout the
 “ district has been carried out.

“ DEFECTIVE SEWERS IN THE FOLLOWING STREETS
 “ AND PASSAGES HAVE BEEN RE-CONSTRUCTED.

- “ Albert Street (part of).
- “ Belgrave Street.
- “ Breck Road (between St. Hilary Brow and Public Footpath to
 “ Bidston).
- “ Brook Street.
- “ Bridgecroft Road.
- “ Charlotte Road.
- “ Charlotte Road (passage at rear of west side and cross passages
 “ east and west sides.
- “ Eaton Street.
- “ Egerton Street (completed).
- “ Ellis Street.
- “ Ellis Street (passage off north side).
- “ Egerton Grove and passage rear of east side.
- “ Falkland Road.
- “ Grosvenor Street (between Westminster Road and Eaton Street).
- “ Hope Street (passage at rear of Nos. 20 to 30.)
- “ Liscard Terrace.
- “ Mount Pleasant Road (passage rear of Nos. 46, 48 and 50).

“ Percy Road (passage at rear of east side between St. Paul’s
“ Road and St. Paul’s Bridle Path).

“ St. Paul’s Bridle Path (between Percy Road and passage rear
“ of east side of Percy Road).

“ Stanley Street.

“ Tobin Street (passage at rear of south side).

“ Union Street (rear of 10 to 20 and 1 to 11, Gresford Place).

“ Withens Lane, reconstruction of sewer in existing portion of
“ proposed new street between Withens Lane and Penkett
“ Road.

“ Stanley Street (passage rear of east and west sides of) pro-
“ ceeding.

“ Egerton Street (passage at rear of 46-64).”

The Sanitary Officers have in connection with the notification of Typhoid Fever supervised during the past year the reconstruction of the drainage systems (partial or entire) at the following houses :—

90, Rappart Road, Seacombe.

38, Brighton Street, Seacombe.

90, King Street, Egremont.

“ Hebblecroft,” Egremont Promenade.

26, Hope Street, New Brighton.

Drainage reconstruction (partial or entire) has also taken place at the following houses where Diphtheria has been notified :—

18, Westmoreland Road, New Brighton.

9, Fell Street, Seacombe.

The flushing of house drains is carried out by three gangs of men, who cover the whole district twice a year, as far as possible, and special and more frequent visits are paid to all schools.

Also a special flushing gang regularly visits houses where Infectious Disease exists, using disinfectants for the drains freely.

The next Table gives details as to the cases admitted to Mill Lane Hospital :—

		Year	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.		
		Admission	171	163	191	175	246	294	397	239		
TOWNSHIPS.			Years.	Small-pox.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlatina.	Typhus.	Typhoid.	Other Diseases.	Totals.
Poulton-cum-Seacombe	{	Poulton. ..	{ Under 5.	—	3 ^A	—	—	3	—	1	—	
			{ Over 5.	—	3	—	—	21	—	1	—	
	{	Seacombe ..	{ Under 5.	—	3 ^A	1 ^A	—	19 ^C	—	—	—	
			{ Over 5.	2	4	—	1	33 ^A	—	8 ^A	—	
Liscard.	{	Egremont ..	{ Under 5.	—	3	—	—	5	—	—	—	
			{ Over 5.	1	1	—	1	21 ^A	—	3 ^A	1*	
	{	Liscard . ..	{ Under 5.	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	
			{ Over 5.	—	3	—	1	23 ^B	—	6 ^A	1*	
	{	New Brighton	{ Under 5.	—	1	—	—	4	—	3 ^A	—	
			{ Over 5.	2	5 ^A	—	—	23	—	1	1*	
Wallasey	{		{ Under 5.	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	
			{ Over 5.	—	7	—	—	8	—	—	—	
Totals			{ Under 5.	5	10	1	—	41	—	5	—	57
			{ Over 5.	5	23	—	3	129	—	19	3	182
												239

NOTE.—A=1 death ; B=2 deaths ; C=3 deaths ; *=uncertain cases.

NOTE.—For the purpose of more defined Localisation :—Poulton includes that portion of Poulton-cum-Seacombe Township to the West of Wheatland Lane ; Liscard Township is above divided into Egremont (portion of Liscard between Seacombe and Green Lane) ; Liscard Proper, including Liscard Village, Magazines, and on to Magazine Lane and Mount Pleasant ; and New Brighton, including rest of Liscard Township.

The new Pavilion (No. III.) opened on January 13th, 1903, has proved of the greatest advantage in the treatment of Scarlatina patients, but for a portion of the year, especially the latter four months, the pressure on its space was great, and justified in every way the resolution come to in 1903 to erect a new Pavilion (No. IV.), which will probably be also devoted to Scarlatina patients. It will contain 20 beds, exclusive of cots, and is now rapidly approaching completion. There ought now to be ample provision for Scarlatina, Typhoid and Diphtheria, with such cases of Erysipelas as have from time to time to be admitted. There has been no overcrowding in the Typhoid Pavilion, for only 24 cases were treated during the year.

There was an increase in the number of Diphtheria cases treated viz., 34 (including Membranous Croup), as compared with 27 in 1903.

In all, 239 patients were admitted, and Table XV. gives particulars as to the localities, diseases and fatal cases.

As previously mentioned, 5 cases of Smallpox were treated in the Special Hospital in Leasowe Road, with no fatal result. This Hospital is worked from Mill Lane Hospital, nurses being sent out as required, and a caretaker always sleeps there, who is otherwise employed when no cases are in the Hospital.

Collection of
Night-soil.

The collection of night-soil by the Council's own staff has worked smoothly and well, and in consequence, the old and frequent complaint, about full ashpits have practically ceased.

It is very desirable that householders should understand they can now do away with ashpits altogether by substituting covered dustbins, which are emptied once a week by the night-soil staff.

This method does away with the old and bad method of wheeling out the contents of ashpits (often foul and decomposing) to be emptied on the road and left till the cart comes round to remove them. It also does away with the noise and disturbance of the barrows and shovelling—formerly a great annoyance to householders at night. This system ought to be adopted much more generally than at present is the case.

These bins cost only a few shillings, and are simply carried out by the men and emptied into the night-soil cart.

For Schools and Public Institutions, as well as for private houses, they are a great improvement on the old system.

A perusal of the report of Mr. Bascombe, Chief Sanitary Inspectors now included, will show the very large amount of House Inspection carried on, the number and nature of Nuisances discovered and remedied, with many other details as to Dairies, Cow-sheds, Slaughter-houses, Bake-houses, &c.

The provisions set forth in the Bye-laws for Sub-let houses on the Register are also carried out by weekly inspections on the part of the Inspectors, and all this has a most salutary effect on the sanitary conditions of such houses.

Inspection under the Factories and Workshops Act is regularly carried on, by which we now have supervision as to sanitary conditions, ventilation, the number of persons allowed to work in each room, &c.

I add a summary of the work done in connection with the various Factory and Workshop Acts, which will show the Inspectors have not neglected this department of Sanitary Work.

1.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written. Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries.)	—	—	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries.)	497	43	—
Workplaces			
Homeworkers' Premises ..	28	—	—
Total	525	43	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	No. of Defects.		Referred to H.M. Inspectors.	Number of Prosecu- tions.
	Found.	Revised.		
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	32	32	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	1	1	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors ..	3	3	—	—
Other Nuisances	7	7	—	—
TOTAL ..	43	43	—	—

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories:—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133)	5
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (S. 5)	—
Notified by H.M. Inspector	—
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors	—
Other	—
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101):—	
In use during 1903	26
Certificates granted in 1903	—
in 1904	21
In use at the end of 1904	22
Homework —	
Number of	
<i>Lists of Outworkers:—</i>	
Lists. Outworkers.	
Lists received	—
Addresses of outworkers	
Forwarded to other Authorities	1
Received from other Authorities.. ..	41
<i>Homework in unwholesome or infected premises:—</i>	
Wearing Other.	
Apparel.	
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (S. 108)	—
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises	—
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (S. 110)	—
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of 1904.	
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here:—	
Bakehouses (including Underground) ..	86
Laundries	16
Other Workshops:—Dressmakers, Milliners, Tailors, Boot Repairing Depots, etc.	93
Total number of workshops on Register ..	195

TABLE XVI.—Vaccination Return for Wallasey, from 1st July, 1903, to the 30th June, 1904.

Successfully Vaccinated	1,354
Died before Vaccination	163
Insusceptible	7
Conscientious Objections.. .. .	6
Postponed by Medical Certificate	45
Removed, Traced, and Vaccination Officers Notified ..	13
Not found, or removed to places unknown	31
<hr/>	
Total Births Registered	1,620

This gives a percentage of 1.9 of the 1,620 births not accounted for as compared with 2.1 per cent. in 1903. Food, &c.
Statistics.

The percentage of births where parents got exemption on the ground of conscientious objections was only 0.37.

The next Table gives the usual

Water Statistics for 1904.

as kindly furnished by Mr. J. H. Crowther, the Water Engineer.

Volume of Water supplied from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1904 ..	674,351,553	galls.
Average supplied per day	1,847,538	„
Average Consumption per day per head	32.99	„
Divided as follows:—		
Supplied by Meter	7.26	„
Supplied to Shipping .. .. .	.15	„
Watering Streets and Roadmaking .. .. .	.43	„
Flushing Sewers by Hose and Cart.. .. .	.36	„
Domestic and other purposes, including		
Drinking Fountains	24.79	„

The quantity of Water used for Flushing Sewers during the year was 7,386,060 gallons.

A full account of the work done at the Sea View Road Pumping Station and at the Gorsehill Reservoir just completed, including the New Tower, has just been published by Mr. Crowther, as I complete this Report, and any further details need not be given by me. The Water Supply for our District is now in a most satisfactory condition, and should meet the requirements for many years to come.

I now add some statistics as to the work done in our District under the Sale of Food and Drugs and Margarine Acts, during 1904, as furnished to me by the Chief Inspector (Mr. W. D. Laird) of the County Council. Food and
Drugs Acts.

Particulars of Samples obtained for Analysis in the Wallasey District, under the "Sale of Food and Drugs Acts," during the year ending December 31st, 1904.

Name of Sample.	No. of Sample.	No. of Samples. certified as Adulterated.
Brandy	8	1
Butter	18	—
Coffee	2	—
Gin	1	—
Ginger Beer	1	—
Margarine	5	—
Milk	36	1
Pepper	1	—
Rum	3	—
Soda Water	1	—
Vinegar	8	1
Whiskey	22	2
Totals	106	5

Particulars of Prosecutions under the "Sale of Foods and Drugs Acts" in the Wallasey District, during the Year ending December 31st, 1904.

No.	Nature of Offence.	Result of Prosecution.
1	Selling Brandy containing spirit derived from a source other than the grape	Case dismissed.
2	Selling Milk adulterated with 4 per cent. of Water	Fined 40/- together with 14/6 costs.
3	Selling Vinegar containing Acetic Acid derived from a source other than Malt	Fined 40/- together with 17/6 costs.
4	Selling Whiskey containing 7 per cent. excess of Water	Fined 3/6.
5	Selling Whiskey containing 9 per cent. excess of Water	Fined 20/- together with 14/6 costs.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

A. CRAIGMILE, M.A., M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

February 21st, 1905.

DURING THE YEAR 1904.

ACREAGE 3,408.153.

CENSUS POPULATION IN 1901, 53,579.

ESTIMATED POPULATION TO THE MIDDLE OF 1904, 57,000.

DISEASES	SEXES.		AGES.								TOWNSHIPS.						MONTHS.												QUARTERS.				Year.	TOTAL.			
	M.	F.	0 to 1	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 85	Above 85	Park- land, and exempts.	Lisard. Wallasey.	Hospitals.	Non- Residents.	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th					
CLASSES.																																					
I—ZYMOTIC DISEASES.....	95	89	85	36	27	14	4	7	3	4	3	1	96	74	14	14	2	8	12	17	23	16	9	14	38	21	9	8	9	37	48	73	26	184			
II—CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES....	52	68	7	7	2	9	10	17	15	30	22	7	41	65	14	6	4	8	17	5	13	9	8	10	6	7	14	11	12	30	30	23	37	120			
III—LOCAL DISEASES.....	206	219	89	27	18	10	13	22	29	92	118	1	147	215	33	25	9	36	33	52	45	44	25	28	18	31	25	41	47	121	114	77	113	425			
IV—DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES.....	51	67	80	0	1	0	0	3	0	2	23	0	57	52	9	0	0	9	13	8	16	7	7	9	9	8	9	14	9	30	30	26	32	118			
V—VIOLENT DEATHS.....	26	9	4	1	1	3	6	4	7	9	0	0	11	21	3	8	13	3	0	3	2	3	6	1	5	2	6	2	2	6	11	8	30	35			
Not specified or ill defined.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
TOTALS.....	430	452	265	71	49	36	33	53	54	137	166	18	352	457	73	53	28	64	75	85	99	79	55	62	76	69	63	76	79	224	233	207	218	882			
CLASS I.																																					
ZYMOTIC DISEASES.																																					
Order 1.—Miasmatic.																																					
1 Smallpox.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
2 Measles.....	15	17	9	11	10	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	20	1	0	0	0	1	2	8	8	7	1	3	0	1	1	0	3	23	4	2	32			
3 Scarlet Fever (Scarlatina) ..	6	2	0	1	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	7	1	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	2	4	4	8			
4 Diphtheria.....	5	4	1	2	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	2	1	2	1	5	9			
5 Quinsy.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
6 Croup.....	2	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	3			
7 Whooping Cough.....	15	27	20	12	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	21	4	0	0	3	9	10	9	5	1	3	0	1	0	1	0	22	15	4					

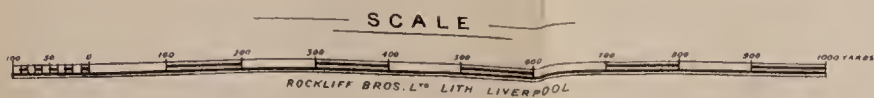
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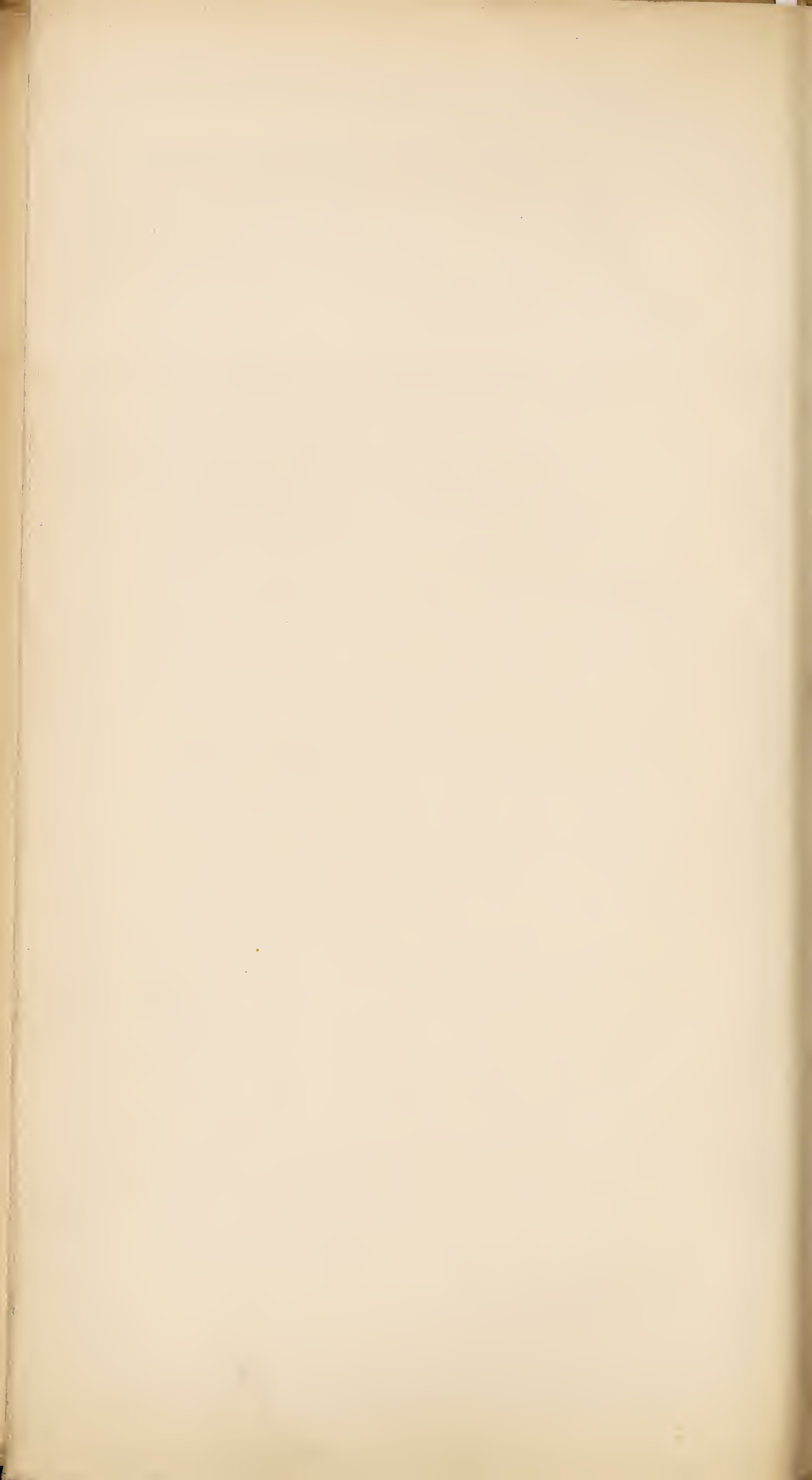


WALLASEY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
MAP
OF PART OF THE
DISTRICT OF WALLASEY,
1902.



1904. REFERENCE.		
MEASLES	●	32
SCARLET FEVER	▲	8
DIPHTHERIA and CROUP	✱	12
WHOOPING COUGH	●	42
TYPHOID	▲	7
DIARRHOEA	✱	62
PUERPERAL FEVER	★	3
ERYSIPELAS	✱	3

W. H. TRAVERS,
DISTRICT ENGINEER & SURVEYOR,
PUBLIC OFFICES,
EGREMONT,
CHESHIRE.

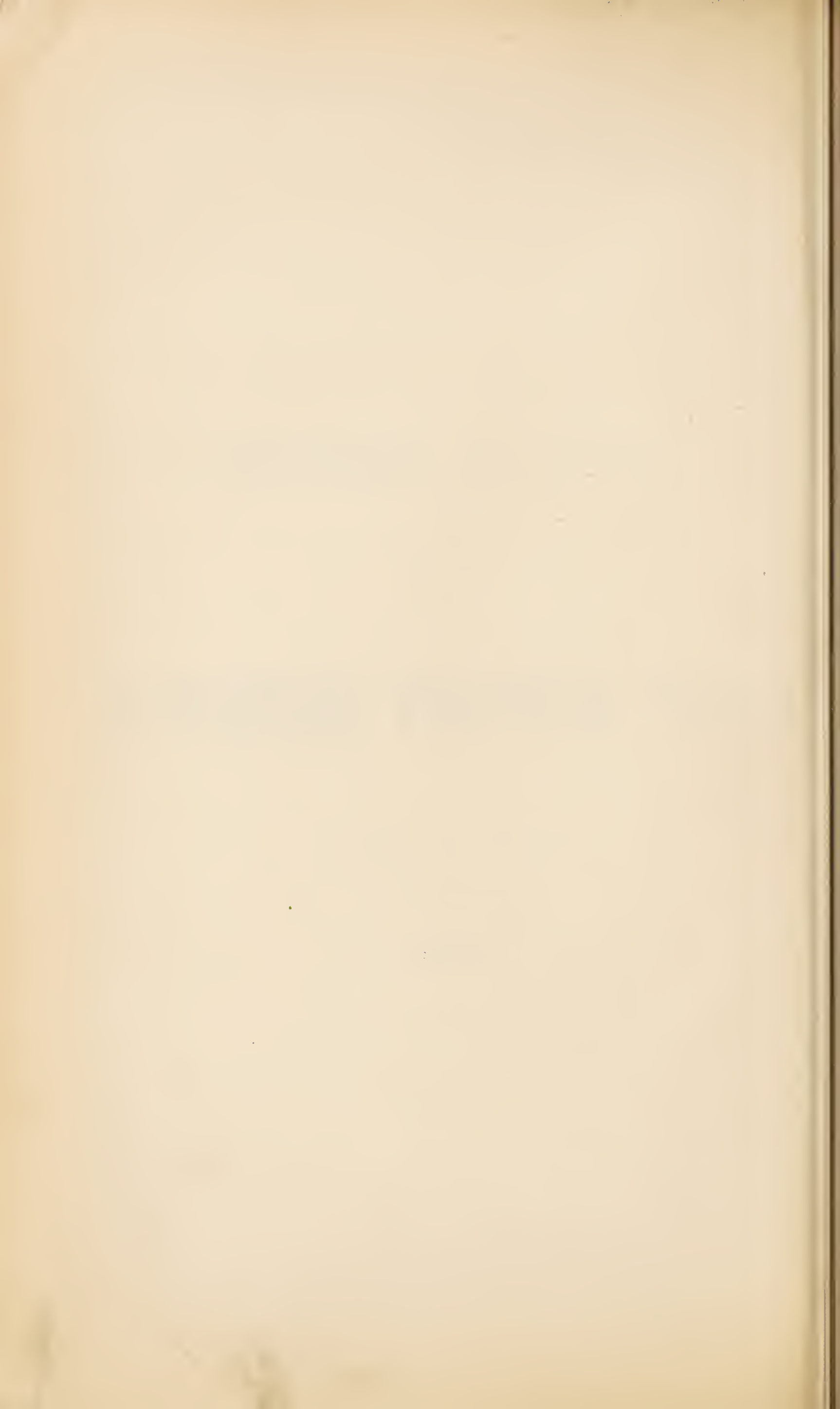


ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

1904.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1904.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH, HOSPITAL
AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to the Chairman and Members of your Committee my Fifteenth Annual Report with regard to the Sanitary Work carried out in this Department during the year ending 31st December, 1904.

A slight alteration has again taken place in connection with the outdoor staff during the past year, Mr. George Davies having been appointed Inspector of Nuisances to the Festiniog Urban District Council, Merionethshire. Advertisements were inserted in the principal Sanitary Journals and local newspapers inviting applications for the vacant post. The whole of the applications received for the appointment were tabulated, and each member of the Committee was supplied with a printed copy. Seven candidates were subsequently selected for further consideration. The whole of these latter, with the exception of the Inspector from Dudley, who had withdrawn his application, were in attendance at my office at two o'clock in the afternoon of the day on which your Committee were to make the appointment. Each applicant then visited certain property in the district, and on returning to the office was required to prepare a brief report as to any defects existing on the premises at the time of his inspection. On appearing before the

Resignation
of Mr. Geo.
Davies.

Appointment
of Mr.
J. B. Smith

Committee, the candidates were further questioned with regard to their acquaintance with the duties of an Inspector, and their knowledge of the various traps and sanitary fittings and other details affecting the work of an Inspector. Ultimately, Mr. John Bernard Smith, who had been engaged for several months on the Sanitary Staff of the Liverpool Corporation, and who also had rendered some temporary assistance in this Department, was recommended by your Committee for the appointment.

Bournemouth Conference.

Report *re*
Bournemouth
Conference.

In accordance with the instructions received from your Committee on the 20th of June, I attended, as a delegate, the Twenty-first Annual Conference of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association, held at Bournemouth during September. In connection with this Conference I prepared a special Report, and furnished each member of the Committee with a copy thereof.

I would take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of your Committee for affording me the opportunity of being present at this Conference as your delegate. It has enabled me to obtain much valuable and useful information, which, I need hardly say, will be practically applied from time to time in the best interests of this district and as opportunities arise.

Inspection of Underground Bakehouses.

Your Committee will no doubt recollect that in the month of June, 1903, a special report was submitted as to the conditions obtaining in connection with the whole of the underground bakehouses situated in this district.

Under the provisions of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, no underground bakehouse, although in use at the commencement of the Act, can be continued for the purpose of baking bread until the premises have been made satisfactory in so far as regards construction, light, ventilation, etc., and the possession by the occupier of a Certificate from the Local Authority as to its fitness for such purpose. Since the

date of that report, further inspections and examinations of premises have been made, and the whole of the occupiers and owners have received the necessary notices, together with copies of the Council's Rules and Regulations with regard to underground bakehouses.

I am glad to be able to report that, except in one instance, the whole of the sanitary works have been completed in a satisfactory manner.

In twenty cases sanitary works have been completed in accordance with the requirements of the Council approved of on the 5th day of November, 1903, in so far as refers to light, ventilation, and general structural condition.

One occupier only has failed to comply with the Council's requirements. In this instance every effort has been made to induce the responsible person to carry out the required works at his underground bakehouse, 101, Victoria Road, Seacombe, but he objects to comply, contending that the owners should complete the necessary alterations.

Mr. Edward Snow, of Victoria Road, New Brighton, has entered into an agreement to erect an entirely new bakehouse within a period of two years. In the meantime he has carried out a considerable amount of work to improve the present bakehouse during the time he has to make temporary use of the underground premises for the purpose of baking.

At 164, Wheatland Lane, Seacombe, 118, Seabank Road, Liscard, and 17, Grosvenor Road, New Brighton, underground bakehouses have been abolished, and new bakehouses erected on the ground level in lieu thereof.

In five instances underground bakehouses were not occupied for baking bread on the 17th August, 1901, and they cannot now be again used for that purpose.

Employment of Children Act, 1903.

Details as to
employment
of children.

In connection with the Bye-laws which it was proposed to make under the provisions of the Employment of Children Act, 1903, I submitted to the Chairman and Members of your Committee, in accordance with a letter received from the Home Secretary, a detailed report as to the number of children employed in various occupations in this district, under the age of 14 years. It would appear that, approximately, 550 children are engaged in various ways, either before or after the ordinary school hours.

Of this number, 95 boys were employed in selling and/or delivering papers.

93 boys were engaged for errand purposes, etc., in delivering goods for grocers, etc.

37 boys were engaged in delivering meat, etc., for butchers.

74 boys were engaged with milk-carts, or in delivering milk.

I was able to ascertain that three girls were employed in delivering milk, etc.

This gives a total of 302 ; and in connection with the remaining 245 children they were found to be engaged in miscellaneous occupations.

It would appear from the Bye-laws to be framed by the Committee that these would practically prohibit the employment of 35 boys under the age of ten years at present engaged in various occupations, and ten girls under the age of twelve, all employed in various ways.

Effect of
proposed
Bye-laws.

By Clauses 2 and 3 it would appear that the Council's Bye-law No. 5 would practically prohibit the employment of the whole of the 550 children before the hour of 7 o'clock in the morning, and after eight in the evening. This would affect a large number of children who are employed until considerably after the hour of eight p.m., and the Bye-law would practically be contravened in some 183 instances, as it was found that 22 were engaged before seven o'clock in the morning and 161 after eight o'clock in the evening.

With regard to the prohibition of street trading, under Clause 3, it was found that no girls were engaged in this class of employment

under the age of 16 years, but it was ascertained that the Bye-law in this respect would be contravened by some 47 boys who are found already employed in various occupations which would come under the definition of street trading.

Insanitary Property.

Your Committee will no doubt recollect that in the year 1898, Premises notices were issued on the agents of the houses Nos. 13 to 25, Mersey Street, Seacombe, to carry out certain structural alterations in connection with the abatement of nuisances then existing at this property. The owner subsequently submitted plans and particulars for re-modelling, and the question was frequently discussed at meetings of your Committee. As nothing was done to comply with the notices, the Medical Officer of Health visited each house, and eventually issued his certificate as to their unfitness for human habitation. The basis of closing was largely due to the improper provision made in connection with the w.c. accommodation which was provided immediately at the rear of the house No. 25. This property has therefore been untenanted since that date.

Early in May last the property was sold by auction, and I subsequently had an interview with the owner's architect. Plans and specifications were prepared for the re-modelling on lines similar to those adopted in connection with the house No. 15, which work was approved of by your Committee in the year 1900. The whole of the works were ultimately completed in a satisfactory manner, at considerable cost; and in accordance with my request the Medical Officer of Health examined the property and submitted his report as to its fitness for human habitation. The Certificates obtained under the Closing Order were therefore withdrawn.

The houses Nos. 16 to 22, Demesne Street having come into the possession of the owners of the property in Mersey Street, were put into thorough repair, and the walls plastered and re-papered. Painting and other repairs were carried out, both inside and outside the premises. The house No. 16 was arranged for a tailor's workshop, and in this case separate lavatory accommodation was provided for the male and female workers. In connection with the work carried out at this property it

Access to
Mersey street
closed.

would be well, perhaps, for me to point out that the offensive conveniences and ashpit have been entirely abolished, and the means of access between this property and Mersey Street is now permanently closed.

Premises Closed as unfit for Human Habitation.

The following is a list of the houses that have been dealt with during the past few years by the Medical Officer of Health, under Section 32 of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890. It will be noticed from the list that a considerable improvement has been effected during the past year. In several instances the Sanitary work has been satisfactorily completed, and the Certificates as to unfitness for human habitation subsequently withdrawn.

Nos. 1 to 25, Burnaby Street, Egremont. (These houses are still being used for stores and workshop purposes).

No. 3, Church Lane, Egremont. (The sanitary works required to render this house fit for human habitation having been duly executed, the closing order has been withdrawn, and the house is now occupied).

Nos. 13 to 25, Mersey Street, Seacombe. (The cottages have been satisfactorily re-modelled by new owners. The certificates as to the premises being unfit for human habitation have therefore been withdrawn, and the whole of the houses are again in occupation).

No. 27, Mersey Street, Seacombe. (This house is still unoccupied).

No. 10a, Mersey Cottages, Mersey Street, Seacombe. (This cottage is also still unoccupied).

Broughton Cottage, Wheatland Lane, Seacombe. (The Sanitary works required to render this house fit for habitation have now been carried out and the premises are again in occupation).

No. 10, Thomas' Buildings, Seacombe. (The remedial works having been executed, the closing order was withdrawn, and the house is now occupied).

Nos. 1, 2, 3, Smithy Cottages, Smithy Lane, Liscard. (This property is still unoccupied. No. 1 is used for workshop purposes).

No. 4, Linden Grove, Liscard. (This house was closed on account of excessive dampness. The gable walls have now been specially treated, and the nuisance complained of abated. The house is now re-occupied).

Following notices, issued some time ago, the undermentioned houses are not now used for dwelling purposes :—

No. 1, Back King Street, Egremont. (Still used for workshop purposes.)

White Cottage, Bridge Road, Seacombe. (Since demolished.)

Work of Female Inspector.

The Female Sanitary Inspector has made a large number of visits House-to-house from house to house amongst the houses of the working classes through- house out the district, and a marked improvement has taken place visitation. in so far as refers to the cleanliness of floors, etc. Particular attention is given to the condition of bedding, and in some twelve instances dirty mattresses have been removed and destroyed.

In many instances advice has been given to mothers with Advice as to respect to the feeding of children, and particular attention directed to feeding of the necessity for the proper cleansing of feeding bottles, etc. infants.

Where leaky house roofs or other structural defects have been noted, these have been referred to the District Inspectors, who subsequently enquired into the matter, and, where necessary, issued the usual health notices for their remedy.

In several instances schools have been visited, where it was School considered desirable to make enquiries at the homes of children in visitation. attendance and where the child appeared to be kept in a dirty or neglected condition. Letter-cards have been left with the head teachers at all the schools, requesting them to notify the Health Department of any cases which it may be considered well to enquire into.

The whole of the workshops where females are employed have Workshop been visited during the year. It is satisfactory to note that no over- visitation. crowding was discovered, and only in a few instances were objectionable conditions found to exist. The workrooms were subsequently cleansed, and in no instance has it been necessary to take legal proceedings with regard to the keeping of the workshops in a satisfactory state as provided for by the Factory Act.

Application for Licence to Slaughter.

Application
for slaughter-
house licence.

Conditions
unfavourable
to granting
of licence

During the month of June an application was received for a licence to utilise a portion of a stable in Mason Street, New Brighton, for slaughtering. It was proposed to make use of an old coach-house for the purpose. I made a careful examination of the premises, when it was found that, if permission were granted for slaughtering, it would be necessary to close the window openings of the dwelling houses which are situated immediately opposite to the doors of the coach-house. Several other window openings would also require to be built up, as they practically overlook the shed in question. Structural alterations would be required in connection with the floor, and the special treatment of the walls with some impervious material. The Council's Bye-laws with regard to ventilation, water supply, etc., would also necessarily have to be complied with. It was ascertained that the applicant was anxious to obtain a licence so that the premises could be utilised for general slaughtering purposes by butchers and others. As I pointed out to your Committee in a special report, I knew of no similar case where a licence had been granted under such circumstances, and suggested that the matter should be referred to the Medical Officer of Health for a special examination of the premises and report thereon.

Licence
not
granted.

In company with the Medical Officer, I subsequently visited the stables, and it was pointed out that a licence could not be granted for slaughtering at the present time where the premises were situated within 100 feet of any dwelling house. The matter was carefully considered and discussed, and your Committee felt that under the circumstances the licence in this case could not be granted.

Complaints
as to want
of public
slaughter-
house.

In connection with the special report submitted to your Committee arising out of this application, I pointed out that complaints had been made to me from time to time as to the want of a public slaughter-house in this district where butchers and others could slaughter their own cattle, etc., and suggested that at some future time it may be considered desirable to erect suitable premises for this purpose in some convenient part of the district.

Case of Anthrax.

Information was received from the Inspector to the Wrexham Rural District Council as to a case of Anthrax having occurred at a farm near Rossett. It was ascertained that milk was being sent to this district from the farm in question, and I at once interviewed the local dealer, who had the supply stopped forthwith. The diseased carcase was cremated and the Inspector subsequently assured me that every possible precaution had been taken to guard against contamination of the milk supply.

Anthrax on
farm near
Rossett.
Local milk
supply from
the farm
stopped.
Precautions
at farm.

Canal Boat Inspection.

It is interesting to note in connection with the Report recently issued by the Local Government Board for 1903-4 with respect to the administration of the Canal Boats Acts in various parts of England, that this District stands thirteenth on the list of 38 of the largest towns having made the greatest number of inspections during the twelve months.

The annual visit of His Majesty's Canal Boat Inspector, Mr. Owen J. Llewellyn, was paid on the 22nd of January, when the various books, notices, and correspondence in connection with the work required to be carried out by the Local Authority under the Canal Boats Acts and Local Government Board Regulations made thereunder were examined.

Visit of
H.M.
Inspector.

Your Committee will be glad to know that at the conclusion of the examination, the Inspector informed me that he was quite satisfied with the manner in which the duties had been performed.

Disinfecting Station.

During the early part of the year I thoroughly overhauled the two Ambulances and the two Disinfecting Vans at Mill Lane Disinfecting Station, Liscard. They were found to require general repairs and re-painting. Specifications were prepared, and estimates obtained for the necessary work. These estimates were carefully examined, and the lowest tender received subsequently accepted. The whole of the repairs and re-painting were completed in a satisfactory manner.

Overhauling
and
re-painting
vans and
ambulances.

Volunteer Camps.

Three companies of Volunteers have formed encampments in various parts of the district during the past year. In each case inspections have been made to ascertain that efficient provision in the nature of sanitary arrangements was being made, and the camp authorities were provided with disinfecting powder, etc.

Suitable arrangements have also been made for the prompt removal of refuse produced on the grounds.

In the case of the Liscard Battery, which is provided with permanent sanitary conveniences, these were thoroughly flushed and cleansed prior to the arrival of the company. This special flushing was repeated every alternate day during the time the premises were occupied by the Volunteers.

Quarry Fencing Act, 1887.

UNFENCED EXCAVATION.

Fence
erected.

Certain excavations situated to the south of Birkenhead Road and Wheatland Lane, Seacombe, were found to be in a condition dangerous to the public making use of the footpaths in that neighbourhood. The owner was communicated with, and a temporary fence was forthwith erected during the removal of the clay for brickmaking operations.

DANGEROUS PIT.

Dangerous
pit.

In connection with the complaints made with regard to the dangerous condition of a pit situated on certain land lying between Gorsey Lane, Poulton, and Lucerne Road, Seacombe, I communicated with the owner of the land with reference to providing a sufficient fence. The excavation was a large one, and in several places over eight feet in depth. The locality was absolutely dangerous to pedestrians having to make use of the footpath leading from Geneva and Lucerne Roads to Gorsey Lane. The owner's representative subsequently called on me, and promised to see whether anything could possibly be done to comply with my request with regard to fencing. As he pointed out, the only difficulty likely to arise was the fact that the pit was not within the

Excavation
being
filled in.

legal distance of a recognized highway, and the public had practically no right of way across the land in question. Subsequently arrangements were entered into with the Surveyor, for the Council's carts to tip suitable refuse therein until sufficient had been deposited to bring the pit up to the level of the ground adjoining.

Flushing and Disinfection of Drains.

ORDINARY HOUSE-TO-HOUSE FLUSHING.

The flushing gangs have practically been kept at constant work throughout the year. The drains, etc., attached to each house erected in the district have been flushed at least twice within the past twelve months. Disinfectants are freely used in connection with this work, especially during the summer months, the external sanitary fittings being thoroughly disinfected after completion of the ordinary flushing. Use of disinfectants.

In 2,114 cases the drains have been found to be in a choked condition, and in 1,899 of these instances the obstructions were successfully dealt with by the flushers at the time of visitation. In the remaining cases the defects discovered have been referred to the District Inspectors, who subsequently visited the premises and issued the usual preliminary notices for the abatement of the nuisances. Defects noted by flushers.

The men are provided with oilskins, overalls, caps, boots, etc., and the equipment is kept well up to date. Flushers' equipment.

The details as to the number of streets and houses visited, and the flushing of yard and w.c. drains in connection therewith are as follows :

Number of visits to streets	..	2,633	Details of Ordinary Flushing.
„ „ houses	.. ..	32,956
„ yard w.c.'s flushed	.. ..	31,555
„ yard gullies „ ..	.. ..	87,117

SPECIAL FLUSHING IN CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The work of special flushing carried out at houses where cases of infectious disease have been notified is as given below :—

Details of special flushing.	Number of visits to streets	..	..	487
	„ „ houses	..	..	1,025
	„ yard w.c.'s flushed	..	..	1,026
	„ yard gullies „	..	..	2,602

Houses at which infectious cases have been notified, and from which patients have been removed to Hospital, are visited at least once. In those cases where patients are treated at home, not only are the drains attached to the house flushed and disinfected once in each week, but also those in connection with other property in the immediate neighbourhood.

SPECIAL FLUSHING IN CONNECTION WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

A flushing gang is specially equipped and told off for visitation in connection with the Public and Private Schools throughout the District. In addition to the flushing carried out on these occasions, a supply of disinfectants is left with the caretakers of the various schools. The details of this special work are as follows :—

Details of School Flushing.	Number of visits to streets	..	..	699
	„ „ premises	..	..	1,083
	„ w.c.'s flushed	..	..	2,819
	„ gullies „	..	..	14,722

Special Complaints.

814 Special Complaints have been received and enquired into during the past year, as against 964 for the previous year. In 710 cases cause for complaint was found to exist, and a Preliminary Notice was served upon the owner to remedy the defective conditions existing. In 104 cases there was either no nuisance apparent at the time of inspection, or the cause of complaint was not considered of sufficient importance to warrant the service of a notice upon the owner. In 4

cases the nuisances complained of were found on inspection to be due to failure on the part of the occupier to keep the various sanitary fittings free from grease and deposits of a like nature. In these cases, the occupiers were called upon to carry out the necessary work. In several instances nuisances were abated by the flushers, whilst in 127 instances it was found that the matters complained of came within the province of other departments of the Council, and to which they were subsequently referred.

Occupiers neglect to clean fittings
Abatements by flushers.

Abatement of Nuisances.

NOTICES ISSUED.

1,124 Notices have been issued by this Department in order to bring about the abatement of nuisances existing in various parts of the district. The necessary works have been specified in detail so as to remedy existing defective conditions.

Notices issued.

Non-Compliance with Statutory Notices.

A large number of persons have been reported during the year for failing to comply with Statutory Notices requiring the abatement of nuisances at premises situate in the district. In each case, legal proceedings were ordered by your Committee to be taken, and in many instances the owners, upon receipt of a written intimation as to our intention to lay an information, executed the necessary works, thus abating the nuisances complained of.

Legal proceedings for failure to abate nuisances.

Many notices have this year been served upon the occupiers of premises to abate nuisances caused by neglect to keep the gullies and sanitary conveniences clean and in good order and condition.

Notice on occupiers.

Correspondence.

There has again been a considerable amount of correspondence during the past year, 2,453 letters, etc., having been issued with regard to nuisances and failures to comply with Preliminary and Statutory Notices, the improper and incomplete execution of sanitary work,

Letters re Notices, &c.

and various other matters in connection with the work of the Department. 3,049 letters have been received and dealt with during the same period, a substantial increase over the figures for the previous year.

Circulars *re*
Lime-washing

246 circulars have been despatched in regard to the lime-washing and cleansing required under the Council's Bye-laws made with respect to dairies, cowsheds, milk shops, sub-let houses, and slaughter-houses.

Drain Testing.

Smoke tests.

At all houses where Typhoid or Diphtheria has occurred, the drains have been tested either with Smoke Rockets or the Grahtryx Machine. In this way many defects have been revealed which it were impossible

Water tests.

to observe from a superficial inspection. Tests have been applied to new drains in course of construction, and also in all other cases where it was thought necessary or desirable. In a few cases the hydraulic test has been applied. The total number of tests carried out during the twelve months was 385.

Nuisances.

REFUSE TIPPED ON LAND.

Objectionable
refuse
tipped on
lands.

Complaints having been received with regard to the objectionable nature of the deposits being made on certain land at the corner of Manor and Penkett Roads, Liscard, I drew the owner's attention to the matter, and also as to the conditions obtaining at the old quarry, Rake Lane, Liscard. A notice has been erected warning persons against depositing rubbish of an objectionable nature. Since this was done, and in conjunction with other steps taken, practically the nuisance has not recurred.

OFFENSIVE SMELLS.

House-to
house
visitation *re*
oil works
smells.

Referring to my previous reports with regard to offensive smells in the neighbourhood of Poulton, acting on the instructions of your Committee, and in addition to the pressure which was brought to bear on the Company in connection with the erection of suitable machinery for the treatment of the oil, I caused to be made a house-to-house visitation of Poulton and the adjoining portions of the district in order

to obtain a fairly accurate estimate of the number of persons having reason to complain of the offensive smells from the Anglo-American Oil Works.

The particulars of the enquiries made in connection with the detailed report submitted to your Committee included the number of the house, the name of the tenant, the date on which offensive odours were noticed, the duration of the smells, and as to whether or not there had been any sickness among the inmates of the house attributable to the foul odours.

Visits were paid to some 435 houses, and in 284 instances the occupiers complained to the Visiting Officer as to the offensive odours. Result of enquiries.
In 73 cases it was found that there either was at the time of visit, or had been prior to that date, sickness in the house, the inmates having suffered from biliousness or from various other ailments which were attributable to foul odours from these Works.

I have visited the Works on several occasions following complaints as to offensive smells, and during the early part of August made a special visit in this connection. At this time, I found that an apparatus had been erected for conveying the fumes to a collecting vessel, where, to some extent the heavy oil is precipitated. From this vessel the fumes are conveyed along special iron pipes to an iron upright shaft in which was introduced a strong flame supplied by gas from a 42-light meter. A difficulty occasionally arose owing to the water in the meter giving out ; and at such times the portion remaining had to be drained off and the meter re-charged. As this work took about half-an-hour to complete, there was no alternative but to discharge the fumes during that period into the open air. Visits to the works.
Methods of destroying fumes.

I have had further interviews with the Engineer and Manager ; and as the method of treating the fumes was unsatisfactory the Gas Destructor has been abolished, and the superheated steam is now conveyed by a special shaft and discharged through the brickwork supporting the boiler, immediately under the firebars.

Continuance
of
observations.

Records are still being kept by the District Inspectors as to the prevalence of offensive odours in the neighbourhood of Poulton or South Seacombe, and reports have from time to time been submitted to your Committee in connection with this matter.

OFFENSIVE DITCHES.

Offensive
ditches.

Complaint having been made as to nuisance arising from the offensive condition of a certain ditch on land adjoining Grove Road, Wallasey, an inspection was made, and notices were served on the owners to execute certain works, comprising the removal of foul deposits and other refuse, and the sanding of the bed of the ditch.

An overflow channel from a cesspool connected with premises adjoining was also cleansed and the cesspool emptied. In connection with this nuisance a considerable quantity of other refuse was removed from the surface of the land in the immediate vicinity.

FLOODED BASEMENT.

Periodic
Flooding.

At Sutton Road a case of recurring nuisance was found to exist, resulting in the periodic flooding of a basement cellar. An examination was made, when it was found that the main receiving drainage from adjoining houses, and which passed under the basement floor, was in a partially choked condition between the interceptor and the junction to the main sewer under Mount Pleasant Road. This matter was subsequently referred to the Surveyor, who offered to connect up each house to the existing sewer under Sutton Road, provided the owners were willing to lay in the necessary branch drains for that purpose. Since that date a portion of the main drain has been taken up and re-laid, and an inspection chamber constructed.

New
connections
by Surveyor.

Branch drains
by owner.

CLEANSING OF PONDS.

During the summer the whole of the ponds in the district were examined, and subsequently the carcasses of a very large number of dogs, etc., removed therefrom and buried. This work was undertaken by the Department, and the following Table gives details as to the ponds dealt with and the number of carcasses removed :—

POOL SITUATE NEAR TO :

Gorsey Lane, Poulton	..	..	16	dogs and cats removed.
Poulton Road (North side)	..	18	„	„
„ (South side)	..	14	„	„
Cinder Lane (Monks Field)	..	16	„	„
				and 1 carcase of pig.
Lonsboro' Road	..	..	3	dogs and cats removed.
Wheatland Lane	..	..	15	„
Hawthorndale Road	..	..	14	„
Cherrybank Road	..	..	15	„
Rear Gandy Belt Works	..	9	„	„
Ponds at rear of Tancred and Belvidere Roads	..	14	„	„

Total number of Carcases removed
and buried .. 135

SMOKE NUISANCES.

Complaints were received during the early part of August as to Smoke the emission of dense smoke from the chimneys attached to the Leasowe Road and Poulton Brickworks. Observations were taken, and it was found that dense smoke was discharged from the chimney stack attached to the Leasowe Road Brickworks for a period of 9 minutes. Black smoke was discharged from the chimney of the Poulton Brickworks for a period of 9½ minutes. The attention of the Works Managers was drawn to the emission of smoke in these two cases, and your Committee authorised the service of Statutory Notices should no steps be taken to abate the nuisance.

The Manager's attention was drawn during the early part of June to the complaints received with regard to the emission of smoke from the chimney attached to the French Steam Laundry, Egerton Street, New Brighton.

Examination of Underground Drains.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE RE-CONSTRUCTION.

During the year it has been considered desirable to make a further examination of the drains and sanitary fittings attached to some 41 houses situated in various parts of the district. Your Committee

Underground examination. have in all cases recommended the Council to empower me under Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1875, to enter the premises in question, and to open the ground, with the object of making a thorough examination of the drains and sanitary conditions existing in connection therewith.

The following are a few cases in which this course has been adopted :

Flooded
cellars.

Defective
main.

Repairs
by owner.

New sewer
laid under
Ellis Street.

Owing to the frequently flooded condition of the cellars in connection with the property, 4 to 16, Ellis Street, Seacombe, the ground was opened in the basements, and it was discovered that the main drain receiving the drainage from the respective areas, and passing under the public footway, was in a defective condition. The owner subsequently carried out the necessary work. The Surveyor also laid in a new sewer under Ellis Street, and arranged for the direct connection therewith of the main drains from these houses. The new sewer constructed by the Surveyor was placed at such a depth as to give ample facilities for the obtaining of a proper and sufficient gradient in connection with the basement drains attached to these houses.

When these drains were laid bare it was considered desirable to draw the Surveyor's attention to their connections with the pipe sewer. Subsequently it was decided to lay in at the rear of these houses a new branch from the main sewer under Ellis Street. The new drains were connected with this passage sewer when the work of re-construction was commenced.

The drains and branches at the undermentioned property having frequently been found in a choked condition, it was considered advisable to bare the pipes for a thorough examination. Application was made to your Committee, and subsequently the necessary work was carried out by this Department :—

Nos. 37 to 43, St. Alban's Road.

Nos. 1 to 15, Fell Street.

Nos. 168 to 178, Wheatland Lane.

Nos. 20 to 30, Hope Street.

In each case very serious defects were found to exist, and the usual notices were served upon the owners. The whole of the drains and branches attached to this particular property were subsequently entirely re-constructed.

With regard to Fell Street, the Surveyor was communicated with, and special connections were made from each house to the new sewer recently laid in at the rear of these houses.

In the case of the Hope Street premises the Surveyor also laid in a new sewer from Grosvenor Road through the passage to the rear, and each house was subsequently connected direct to this new sewer.

BANK HOUSE, MERSEY STREET.

Notices have been served on the owner to carry out certain sanitary work at this house during the year; and whilst the works were in progress it was considered desirable to make some alterations in connection with the adjoining sewer. This was referred to the Surveyor, who forthwith carried out the necessary work.

No. 36, TRAFALGAR ROAD.

In connection with certain property in Trafalgar Road, works of re-construction have been carried out during the year. In this case also it was considered necessary to draw the attention of the Surveyor to the sewer at the rear. The necessary work was at once put in hand.

1 to 39, GRESFORD PLACE.

With regard to the notices outstanding in connection with this property, the owners have during the year put into thorough repair the gutters, downspout, ashpit roofs, and conveniences. The whole of the work was carried out under the supervision of the District Inspector, and to his satisfaction. The work of flagging the passage at the rear has been undertaken by the Surveyor's Department, and in consequence the sanitary conditions are much more satisfactory than hitherto.

A large amount of work has been done during the past year in connection with the re-construction of drains. At the following houses entire re-construction has taken place.

SEACOMBE.

1 to 15, Fell Street ; 168 to 178, Wheatland Lane ; 26, Shakespeare Road ; 59, Byron Road ; 15, Oakdale Road ; 2, Halstead Road ; 45, Palatine Road ; 22, Thomas's Buildings ; 8, Mersey Street ; 8, Ellis Street ; 63, Rappart Road ; 106, Bell Road ; 36, 38, and 40, Brighton Street ; 189, Brighton Street.

POULTON.

Creek Side Cottage.

EGREMONT.

39, Union Street ; 5, Lea Road.

LISCARD.

37 to 43, St. Alban's Road ; "Stapleton," Manor Road ; 11, Brook Street.

NEW BRIGHTON.

20 to 30, Hope Street ; 25, Meadow Street ; "Red House," Warren Drive ; 3, Ennerdale Road ; 1, Seymour Street.

WALLASEY.

Lower Lodge, Smithy Lane ; "Fairfield," St. George's Road ; Allen's Cottage, Wallasey Village ; 24, Village Road ; 123, Village Road.

Partial re-construction only has been necessary at the following houses :—

SEACOMBE.

9 and 11, Ashville Road ; "Somerville House," Poulton Road ; 25, Kenilworth Road ; 109, Brighton Street ; 62 and 90, Rappart Road ; 34, Buchanan Road ; 44, Bell Road ; "Bank House," Mersey Street.

POULTON.

Creek Side Cottages (except that main drain has been entirely re-constructed).

EGREMONT.

43, Rudgrave Square ; 90, King Street ; 36, Exeter Road ;
 “Hebblecroft,” Egremont Promenade ; 6, Sea Bank Avenue ;
 4, Tobin Street ; 38 and 40, Church Street.

LISCARD.

“Sunnyside,” Withen’s Lane ; 11, Brook Street ; 23, Merton
 Road ; 6, Egerton Grove ; 3, Zig Zag Road ; 21, Martin’s
 Lane ; “The Laurels,” Sea View Road ; 13, Cecil Road ;
 6 to 12, Mill Lane, and “Mill Bank,” Mill Lane.

NEW BRIGHTON.

4, Molyneux Drive ; 18, Westmoreland Road.

WALLASEY.

27 and 33, Granville Terrace.

In the case of the drains attached to the houses Nos. 38 and 40, Church Street above mentioned, it was found that the main drain passed under a portion of Darlington Street, and from thence appeared to take a course directly beneath the footwalk to the Church Street sewer. The branch drain from the cellar was re-laid, and a good intercepting trap fixed in connection therewith.

Privy Conversion.

A very offensive and badly constructed privy was discovered at a workshop in Ellis Street, Seacombe. The ordinary notices were issued, and subsequently the objectionable convenience was abolished, and a proper sanitary fitting, together with the necessary drains and appliances, constructed in lieu thereof.

A foul privy midden was also found at No. 36, Trafalgar Road. The usual notices were issued, and a proper sanitary convenience was constructed. A galvanized iron ashbin was furnished for the storage of domestic refuse, and the old and highly objectionable ashpit abolished.

Sanitary Inspection of Schools and Other Public Buildings.

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOLS.

The drain receiving the surface water from the Boys' yard has during the past year been partially re-constructed.

The internal walls of the school have also been re-painted and coloured.

ST. LUKE'S SCHOOLS.

The drains attached to St. Luke's Schools have also been frequently found in a choked condition, but it has been possible to remove the deposits by means of special flushing.

ST. JAMES' SCHOOLS, NEW BRIGHTON.

In connection with both the schools above named, and situate in Magazine Lane and Egerton Street respectively, the drains were frequently found to be in a choked condition. The Managing Authorities were communicated with, and the defects responsible for the nuisance were duly remedied.

ST. BARNABAS' HOME, MONTPELLIER CRESCENT.

These premises, and also those adjoining (used temporarily for a similar purpose) have been examined during the year and found to be in satisfactory sanitary condition.

Inspection of Licensed Premises.

WELLINGTON HOTEL, LISCARD.

The lavatory attached to these licensed premises, and of which complaints were frequently received, has been arranged for the private use of the Hotel only, the common entrance direct from the public footpath having been abolished. These works have been carried out since the opening of the Tramway Shelter and Conveniences erected at the corner of Liscard Village and Wallasey Road.

Sub-let House Inspection.

Under the Bye-Laws made by the Council with respect to houses ^{Requirements} let in lodgings, or occupied by members of more than one family, the ^{under the} occupier of the premises is not permitted to allow a greater number ^{Council's} of persons to inhabit a room for living or sleeping purposes exclusively ^{Bye-laws.} than will admit of the provision of 300 cubic feet of free air space for each person above the age of 10 years, and in the case of an apartment used for living and sleeping purposes, than will admit of the provision of 400 cubic feet of free air space for each person so occupying. Special provision is also made for ventilation, adequate sanitary arrangements and the weekly washing of floors, passages and staircases. In the month of May in each year, the walls, rooms and passages have to be thoroughly lime-washed.

Practically the only houses exempted under the Bye-laws are ^{Premises} those where the rateable value exceeds £25, and the rent paid by any ^{exempted.} lodger exclusive of any charge for the use of furniture is not less than 10/- per week, or where the rent paid by such lodger inclusive of the use of furniture is not less than 20/-.

There are 60 duly registered sub-let houses.

Particular attention has been given to the sub-let houses situated in Havelock Street, Brighton Place and Wheatland Lane (South), Seacombe, as this class of dwelling needs what may be practically termed constant supervision.

Six houses have been removed from the Register, as they are ^{Registration.} now no longer used for sub-let purposes.

Twelve houses have been added to the Register, as the manner in which the respective premises are now utilized has brought them within the scope of the Bye-laws.

During the year 912 visits have been paid, in order to see that the premises were conducted in a proper manner and as required under the Regulations.

Midnight
Inspections.

Several midnight inspections have been made in connection with the visitation to houses occupied by members of more than one family, and in consequence coming under the operation of the Council's Bye-laws made with respect to sub-let premises. Practically there was no overcrowding found to exist at the times of inspection.

Notices *re*
cleansing.

In several cases it has been found necessary to issue notices for the cleansing and lime-washing of houses and sub-let apartments. In each instance the work required has been carried out.

Overcrowding
abated.

On visiting a sub-let house in Burnaby Street, it was found to contain six adults and four children. The Bye-laws were therefore contravened to the extent of two adults and one child. The usual notice was served on the tenant to remove the occupier from one of the sub-let rooms. This was done, and the premises will be frequently visited in order to see that the room is not again sub-let.

In one instance, that of a house quite recently discovered to be sub-let, one room was found to be occupied by a man, his wife, and family, for the combined purpose of living and sleeping. The family subsequently removed to larger premises.

Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885.

BROUGHTON COTTAGE, WHEATLAND LANE.

House unfit
for habitation

Upon inspection, the house situate and known as Broughton Cottage, Wheatland Lane, Seacombe, was found to be in such an insanitary condition as to render it unfit for habitation. The usual notices were served, and the premises vacated. The owner proceeded to carry out the suggested improvements, and the following remedial works have been executed :—

Remedial
works
executed.

The ashpit has been abolished, and a galvanized iron ashbin provided for the storage of domestic refuse. All offensive matter has been removed from the site of the old pit, and the surface properly concreted. The yard surface and passage approach have been repaved, and a proper gradient formed in order to convey the storm water to the various drains and gullies provided for its reception.

The drainage system has been relaid with earthenware pipes, cement jointed, and laid upon a bed of concrete. Proper traps have been fixed at various points. The house roof was put into thorough repair, and new gutters and downspouts provided. All timber affected with dry rot has been removed from the premises, and sound dry timber provided in lieu thereof. The floors of the kitchen and passage have been repaired, and the joints of the brickwork raked and re-pointed.

10, THOMAS' BUILDINGS, SEACOMBE.

Following my report to your Committee as to the execution of certain sanitary work in connection with this house, the Medical Officer of Health visited the premises and withdrew his certificate as to its unfitness for human habitation, the whole of the necessary sanitary works having been executed satisfactorily. Closing order withdrawn.

BRIGHTON PLACE, SEACOMBE.

The owners of the houses Nos. 1 to 4, Brighton Place, Seacombe, have during the year asphalted the footwalks leading thereto. Considerable benefit has been derived by the execution of this work. I also endeavoured to get the owners of the houses on the opposite side of the court to asphalt the remaining surfaces, or to cover them with a light layer of concrete, but it would appear from their communication in reply that the estate was unable to bear the expense of carrying out the necessary work. Footwalk to Nos. 1 to 4 asphalted.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS USED FOR HUMAN HABITATION.

During the past twelve months, 24 caravans situated in various parts of the district have been inspected. These vans have been found to be kept in a cleanly condition. No case of infectious disease has occurred amongst any of the inmates, and practically, there has been very little to which objection could be raised by the officers of this Department.

The galvanised iron shed in the occupation of Frederick Kruger, and situated on certain land at Green Lane, Wallasey, has been frequently visited. The District Inspector who has had the hut and occupant under supervision for some considerable time, states that Shed occupied as a dwelling.

although he found the place generally in an untidy condition, he could not corroborate all the statements which have been made as to the alleged filthy conditions obtaining in connection therewith.

Where necessary, the Visiting Officer has requested the occupant to have the place put into a more tidy condition ; and on subsequent re-visits he has found that his requirements have been complied with.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES USED IN COMMON.

In accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, 2,095 visits have been paid with respect to all sanitary conveniences used in common by the occupiers of two or more separate dwellings or by other persons. In many instances it has been found necessary to issue Preliminary Notices to carry out the cleansing required. The localities of these particular conveniences are as under :—

Nos. 13 to 25, Mersey Street	6 w.-cs.
No. 35, Mersey Street	1 w.-c.
Nos. 41 and 43, Mersey Street	2 w.-cs.
Nos. 1 to 4, Higher Seacombe (trough closets) ...	2 w.-cs.
May Place, Seacombe	3 w.-cs.
Hawthorn Cottages, Seacombe	3 w.-cs.
Back Willow Cottages, Church Road, Seacombe ..	2 w.-cs.
Oakdale Yard, Seacombe	6 w.-cs.
Creek Side, Dock Road, Seacombe	3 w.-cs.
Union Court, Union Street	1 w.-c.
Nos. 27 to 43, and 45 to 51, Burnaby Street	13 w.-cs.
Stafford Buildings, Withens Lane (trough closet)	4 w.-cs.
Model Farm Cottages, Mill Lane	2 w.-cs.
Field Cottages, Liscard	5 w.-cs.
Hope Place, Wallasey Road	2 w.-cs.
Robinson's Cottages, Folly Lane	2 w.-cs.
Mason's Cottages, Wallasey Village	4 w.-cs.
Mission Hall Cottages, Wallasey Village	1 w.-c.

Black Horse Cottage, Wallasey Village.....	1 w.-c.
Wood Lane, Cottages off	1 privy.
Elm Grove, Mount Pleasant Road.....	1 w.-c.
Albert Terrace, Mount Pleasant Road	2 w.-cs.
Marine Parade, Birkenhead Road	6 w.-cs.

INSPECTION OF CAB DRIVERS' SHELTERS.

During the year these shelters have been kept under observation, and in many instances the men have been requested to keep the same in a cleanly condition.

The old wooden erection hitherto used as a Cab Shelter at Victoria Place, Seacombe, has been removed during the course of the year. It was often found impossible to keep the place in a thoroughly clean condition. Your Committee have now erected a handsome building, comprising Shelter and Lavatory, in lieu thereof.

House-to-House Inspection.

House-to-house inspections have been carried out during the year as under, and notices served for defects discovered :—

SEACOMBE.

Leopold Street ; 4 to 16, Ellis Street ; 21 to 29, Geneva Road ; 2 to 50, Shakespeare Road ; 1 to 45, Shakespeare Road ; 1 to 41, Edgmond Street ; 3 to 23, Havelock Street ; 152 to 178, Wheatland Lane ; 11 to 17, Abbotsford Street ; 1 to 25, Fell Street ; 39 to 53 and 84 to 118, Ashville Road ; 6 to 12, Gladstone Road ; 1 to 11, Short Street ; 1 to 6, Russell Cottages ; 5 to 15 and 6 to 16, Tabor Street ; 1 to 15 and 4 to 18, Shaw Street ; 1 to 17 and 6 to 12, Chapel Street ; 1 to 3, Little Street ; 1 to 9 and 2 to 10, Bosnia Street ; 1 to 5 and 2 to 8, Servia Street ; 48 to 52, Albemarle Road.

POULTON.

1 to 29, Rankin Street ; 2 to 18, Juliet Street ; 1 to 9, Creek Side Cottages.

EGREMONT.

5 to 19, Rice Hey Road ; 2 to 38, Burnaby Street ; 5 to 23, Union Street ; Union Court ; 1 to 17, Gresford Place.

LISCARD.

6 to 12, Mill Lane ; 1 to 39 and 2 to 24, Grange Avenue ; 1 to 9 and 2 to 10 Apsley Avenue ; 1 to 13, Brook Street ; 1 to 9, Brook Place ; 1 to 21, Walmsley Street.

NEW BRIGHTON.

20 to 30, Hope Street ; 2 to 16, Seymour Place, West ; 1 to 11 and 2 to 12, Eleanor Street ; 17 to 45, Field Road.

LOWER PARADE.

House-to-house inspection.

As in previous years a house-to-house inspection was made of the premises on the Lower Parade prior to the Easter holidays, the whole of the Staff assisting in this special work. Several defective conditions were found to exist, for the remedying of which the usual preliminary notices were served upon the respective owners and occupiers.

Notices for defects.

Proceedings authorized.

Re-visits of inspection were made, and where no steps had been taken to abate the nuisances, your Committee authorized the service of the Statutory Notices, in default of compliance, legal proceedings to be instituted against the persons responsible. The whole of the nuisances were found to have been subsequently abated.

Nuisances abated.

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE FEMALE
SANITARY INSPECTOR IN CONNECTION WITH
HOUSE-TO-HOUSE VISITATION.

Number of Streets visited	..	..	..	..	..	..	898
„ „ Houses inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,798
„ „ Apartments inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	18,557
„ „ „ found clean	..	..	..	..	..	..	16,535
„ „ „ „ dirty	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,022
„ „ Families visited	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,614
„ „ Children in such Families	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,300
„ „ „ in dirty state	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,077

Number of Families re-visited	1,702
„ „ Apartments in which dirty bedding was discovered	887
„ „ Mattresses destroyed	12
„ „ Verbal Notices to Occupiers for Cleansing	1,145
„ „ Houses in which sickness was discovered	1,482
„ „ „ in which cases of Diarrhœa were discovered	110
„ „ Special Visits paid to houses at which Diarrhœa was reported	115
„ „ Visits paid to Houses at which Deaths from Infantile Diarrhœa had occurred	54

OTHER WORK ATTENDED TO :—

Special Complaints	11
Nuisances discovered	1,081
Re-inspections in connection with Nuisances	1,391
Nuisances abated	1,093
References to District Inspectors	124
References to Water Department	41
„ Surveyor's Department	16
„ Education Authority	1
„ Prevention of Cruelty to Children Society	2
Visits paid to Schools	76
School Cases visited	65
Special Visits of Enquiry	5
Visits <i>re</i> Child Employment	97

Bye-laws with respect to Nuisances.

STABLE YARD INSPECTION.

766 Visits have been paid to various stable yards in connection with the removal of manure, etc. A decided improvement has taken place with regard to the keeping of same in a cleanly condition, and in the observance of the Bye-laws as to the removal of accumulations of this description.

In a few cases it has been necessary to serve preliminary notices. These were, however, duly complied with, and no further proceedings were necessary.

Following an inspection of certain stable premises in Stanley Street, Seacombe, a notice was issued requiring the provision of a proper manure receptacle, the paving of the yard surface, and the reconstruction of the drains. The work was carried out in a satisfactory manner under the supervision of this Department.

The Bye-laws were also contravened at certain stables in Albion Street, New Brighton, and also at Cardigan Road, New Brighton. The usual Preliminary and Statutory Notices were issued in both cases and resulted in compliance with the Bye-laws.

A contravention of the Nuisance Bye-laws was found in connection with stables situate in Liscard Road, Liscard, there being an insufficient manure pit. The usual notices were served on the responsible person, and eventually the necessary work was carried out.

KEEPING OF SWINE.

Intimation having been received as to offensive odours from certain premises situate at the top of Atherton Street, New Brighton, it was found that some 17 pigs were being kept under very unsatisfactory conditions. Apart from the animals being housed within the statutory limitation of 60 feet of a dwelling-house, the sties were very defectively drained and discharged into two large manure receptacles, thereby causing an objectionable nuisance. The owner of the swine was immediately notified, and was requested to remove them, and to cease keeping pigs on the premises. The notice was duly complied with, and there was, therefore, no necessity for further proceedings. The owners of the premises were also notified as to certain unsatisfactory structural conditions.

The Council's Bye-laws with respect to nuisances were found to have been contravened at certain premises in Rake Lane, Liscard, 17 pigs being kept within 60 feet of a dwelling-house. Preliminary and Statutory Notices were issued in this case, and subsequently the pigs were removed.

A number of swine were found to be kept within the distance of 60 feet of a dwelling-house in connection with stables situate in Park Street, Liscard. Preliminary and Statutory Notices were issued, and the pigs were subsequently removed.

Description of Nuisances.

The following is a tabulated list of the Nuisances discovered and dealt with under the Public Health Acts and Council's Bye-Laws :—

Houses found	in a dirty condition	97
Do.	in an overcrowded condition	2
Do.	with defective or insufficient drains	193
Do.	with choked drains	537
Do.	with defective channelling, dishing, &c.	159
Do.	with no supply of water for domestic purposes	11
Do.	with an insufficient supply of water for domestic purposes	3
Do.	with no supply of water for flushing w.c.'s ..	48
Do.	with an insufficient supply of water for flushing w.c.'s	60
Do.	with defective w.c. putty joints and flush pipes..	207
Do.	with broken or foul w.c. basins and traps ..	172
Do.	with sink and other waste pipes connected direct to main drain	10
Do.	with bath, lavatory, pantry, and scullery waste pipes untrapped, allowing foul air to enter the house	64
Do.	with bath, lavatory, pantry and scullery waste pipes requiring repairs or re-arrangements .	75
Do.	with soil pipes requiring ventilation, repairs or re-jointing	129
Do.	with defective or insufficient bath, lavatory, pantry, scullery, yard, or w.c. traps	159
Do.	with waste pipes and yard gully traps badly arranged	6
Do.	with sink stones and lavatory basins badly arranged	18
Do.	with gullies in a foul condition	55
Do.	with w.c.'s requiring re-construction, repairs or cleansing, or offensive privies	105
Do.	with surfaces of yards or passages requiring re-tiling	396
Do.	with offensive rain-water tanks	1
Do.	with defective w.c. flushing cisterns	68
Do.	with waste pipes connected to soil pipe	2
Do.	with defective floors	60

Houses found with staircases in a dangerous condition, or insufficiently lighted	6
Do. vacant and insecure against misuse by general public	4
Do. with defective and dangerous walls	11
Do. with damp walls	41
Do. with rooms insufficiently lighted	1
Do. with rooms insufficiently ventilated	5
Do. without through ventilation under floors ..	10
Do. with roof gutters and down-spouts connected direct to main or requiring repairs	208
Do. with defective roofs	100
Do. without proper and sufficient ashpits or bins..	220
Do. with no receptacle for house refuse	20
Do. with yard surfaces dirty	12
Do. without water-closet accommodation	6
Rooms stripped and cleansed after infectious disease	119
Bedding found in a dirty condition	12
Nuisances arising from the emission of dense smoke from chimneys	14
Nuisances arising from escapes of coal gas	1
Offensive accumulations found requiring removal	64
Do. ponds found requiring cleansing	3
Do. cesspools found	2
Offensive ditches	3
Disused wells containing stagnant water discovered	4
Sub-soil water nuisances	7
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	11
Carcases found requiring removal.. .. .	15
Unfenced quarries	1
Certificates given for sanitary work executed under notices .	9
Stables without manure receptacles	3
Do. with defective receptacles	15
Do. with defective paving and means of drainage	10
Foul urinals	1
Nuisances arising from decomposing rats	1
Do. from fumes and smoke from brick kiln	2
Defective and leaky stove cisterns	3
Matters referred to other Departments	215
Special reports made with regard to the sanitary condition of premises	14
Miscellaneous defects	120
Nuisances arising from broken water pipes	5
Do. from house basements flooded with sewage ..	7

Offensive Trades and Knackers' Yards.

During the early part of August, complaints were received by your Committee as to the prevalence of offensive smells in the neighbourhood of South Seacombe, said to arise from the Potteries. These Works were visited on fourteen separate occasions during one month, and except in three instances the premises were found in a fairly satisfactory condition, consistent with the nature of the trade carried on. On these three occasions a very large quantity of offal had been received from the Wallasey and Alfred Lairages. Your Inspector requested that this offal be treated forthwith, and on visiting the Works later in the day it was found that his request had been complied with. A good supply of water is obtained from the well on the premises, and I understand that strict instructions have been issued to the employés to make constant use of this for washing the walls and floors. The offensive fumes from the flesh and fish-drying pan are now conveyed to a specially constructed condenser, and the arrangement appears to be working satisfactorily.

The usual limewashing and cleansing have received special attention.

In order to more effectively cope with the increased quantity of material now being treated, it has been considered desirable to erect another drying pan, and also to provide more vats. This work is now in progress, and will no doubt when completed greatly facilitate the removal and destruction of offensive material.

Infectious Diseases.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE (NOTIFICATION) ACT, 1889.

413 cases of infectious disease have been notified during the past year. Enquiries were made immediately on receipt of the notification ; the sanitary arrangements and surrounding conditions have been carefully inspected and examined, and every possible enquiry made in order to ascertain, if possible, the source of infection. The milk supplies, schools attended, places of employment, and methods of isolation have in each case been specially dealt with. Prompt intimation has, in 57

Offensive
smells.

Frequent
inspections.

Additional
fittings be
provided.

Procedure on
notifications.

Intimations
to School
Authorities.

cases, been given to the head teachers of all private schools where members of the household have been allowed to continue attendance without having previously obtained a medical certificate. Notifications have also been forwarded to the Education Department. 204 such intimations have been issued.

Intimations
to Librarian.

The Chief Librarian has also been advised as to the existence of infectious diseases at various parts of the district. All books belonging to the Free, and also to the various Private Libraries, have been obtained from the occupiers of houses by the District Inspectors on their visits of enquiry following the notification of infectious disease thereat. These books have subsequently been carefully treated by means of *Formic Aldehyde*, and then passed through an aeration chamber specially constructed for the purpose.

Disinfection
of Books.

Sanitary
conditions
examined
at Houses.

The drains and sanitary fittings of all houses at which cases of infectious disease have been notified are carefully examined and tested. In many cases the walls and ceilings of sick rooms have been stripped and cleaned in accordance with the Medical Certificate. Detailed reports in all cases have been forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health, and in all notified cases of infectious disease the house drains have been thoroughly flushed and disinfected. Where patients have been treated at home the drains have been repeatedly flushed and disinfected. Immediate intimation is given to the occupier of each house where cases are notified as to the existence of the disease and the measures to be adopted to prevent its spread. Disinfectants are supplied to those persons unable to purchase them.

Drains
flushed.

Intimations
to occupiers.

Disinfectants
supplied.

Cleansing of
Walls and
Ceilings.

Where cases of Scarlet Fever have occurred, and the walls and ceilings of the sick room have been found at the time of the Inspector's visit to be in a dirty and dilapidated condition, notices have been served requiring stripping, cleansing, and lime-washing or re-papering. This is, of course, in addition to the ordinary disinfection of the room and contents by means of sulphurous acid gas.

In 144 cases the paper coverings have been removed from the walls of the infected apartments by our own men, and destroyed at the Gorsey Lane Dépôt, having been previously carefully disinfected by means of *Formic Aldehyde*.

The work of special flushing in connection with infectious disease is as referred to in that portion of the report dealing with the flushing of house drains and sanitary fittings. Special flushing.

In several instances where cases of infectious disease have not been removed to Mill Lane Hospital, the children have been kept under observation by the District Inspectors from the date of notification until the recovery of the patient. It was found in one or two cases that children residing in the neighbourhood were playing with children from infected houses. The parents were, however, warned as to the risks attending this course, and against allowing their children to enter the premises affected. Precautions against allowing children in contact with infection.

In connection with a case of Scarlet Fever occurring at Wallasey, it was found on making the usual enquiry and examination that the methods of isolation adopted were of a very unsatisfactory description. The medical man in attendance was promptly communicated with, and the parents of the children were subsequently prevailed upon to allow their removal to Mill Lane Hospital. Insufficient isolation. Ultimate removal to Hospital.

SMALLPOX.

In connection with the 6 cases of Smallpox notified in this district during the year, prompt visitation has in each instance been made. The drains and sanitary arrangements have been thoroughly flushed and disinfected, not only of the houses at which the infection has occurred, but also of those attached to all the property in the immediate neighbourhood. The whole of the ashpits, etc., in the infected area have been cleansed, and arrangements made for their weekly clearance for at least a month following the date of notification. In a similar manner our flushing gangs have repeated their flushing and disinfection for at least 14 days after the date of notification. Disinfectants have also been freely distributed, and prompt fumigation of the infected rooms has been carried out. Arrangements have been made for the stripping and cleansing of 21 rooms by the Department's own men, the owner in each case subsequently re-papering and liming. The infected wall papers have been immediately removed to the Precautions adopted in each case of Smallpox.

Destructor Works, and there burned. Carbolacene and carbolic soap have also been supplied to the occupiers for use after stripping, etc. have been carried out.

Visits to
contacts.

749 visits of enquiry have been made in connection with all persons having been in contact with Smallpox patients either in this or adjoining districts, and the usual reports were promptly forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health.

In addition to this, a large number of persons residing in this district, and having been in contact with cases of Smallpox occurring in the city of Liverpool, or on vessels arriving in the port, have also been visited daily. So far, however, I am glad to say that no actual case of Smallpox has resulted in this connection.

Vaccination
of contacts.

In almost every instance I have been successful in inducing persons who have been in contact with Smallpox to submit to re-vaccination.

In the early part of the year the first four cases of Smallpox were reported in this district.

On enquiring into the first case, notified on the 22nd of March, it was ascertained that the patient had only recently returned home from Tranmere.

The second case was reported on the 28th March, and although every effort was made, the source of infection in this case was not discovered.

On enquiring into the third case, reported on the 11th of April, it transpired that the patient left a vessel at Cardiff to proceed to his residence at Liscard, and it was subsequently ascertained that a case of Smallpox had occurred on board ship during the voyage.

The fourth case, notified on the 18th of April, appeared to have contracted the infection from the same source as the patient reported as suffering from Smallpox on the 22nd March.

Prompt intimation was given to the Public Vaccinators, and all Public persons having been in contact with these cases were re-vaccinated. Daily visits were paid to the contacts for a period of fourteen days from the date of the receipt of the notification. In addition to this precaution the drains and sanitary arrangements were thoroughly flushed and disinfected. The whole of the houses at which cases of Smallpox had been notified were stripped and cleaned, and the wall papers removed to the Destructor Dépôt and there burned.

In connection with some of the cases it was found that the bedding, clothing, palliasses, etc., were in such an objectionable condition as to warrant destruction. These articles were therefore taken to the Destructor and there burned.

In two instances the inmates of the premises who had been in contact with the patient, were removed from the house during such time as it was necessary to close the same whilst fumigation was being carried out, and in order to ensure efficient disinfection.

In each of the cases referred to the persons were accommodated in an empty ward at the Isolation Hospital, Mill Lane, where they were cleansed and their personal effects disinfected.

In two instances the entire premises have been lime-washed. The walls, etc. having been previously stripped. The whole of the work was carried out by our own men.

Where necessary, intimations as to the existence of the disease have been given to pawnbrokers having business premises in the immediate vicinity of houses at which cases of Smallpox had been notified.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Local Government Board, I have advised the Vaccination Officer as to the cases of Smallpox occurring in this district.

NOTIFICATIONS FROM PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY:

In all cases where notifications have been received from the Port Sanitary Authority as to persons having left infected vessels

with the intention of proceeding to this district, prompt enquiries have been made at the addresses given. In each instance the persons named have been found at the time of the visit, and subsequently, to be in good health, and in no case was infection contracted.

Public Health Act, 1875.

DISINFECTION.

Measures
adopted.

The usual prompt measures have been adopted during the past year to prevent the spread of infectious disease by the immediate removal and disinfection of infected articles, bedding, clothing, &c., to the Mill Lane Disinfecting Station. Disinfection has not only been carried out on the removal of patients to Mill Lane Hospital, or where cases have been isolated at home, but also on the receipt of all requests from Medical Attendants.

ORDINARY DISINFECTION.

Details of
Disinfection.

The details of the work of Disinfection are as follows :—

Number of Rooms Disinfected	..	..	398
Number of Beds and Mattresses Disinfected..			451
Number of Articles of Bedding, Clothing, etc., Disinfected	..	..	..
	..	..	4,508

SPECIAL DISINFECTION.

Disinfection
by means of
Formalde-
hyde.

In many cases rooms have been disinfected with *Formic Aldehyde* gas produced by means of the Sanitary Formaldehyde Regenerator. Very satisfactory results have been obtained by the use of the apparatus. The objectionable sulphurous odour noticeable in rooms for so long after disinfection in the ordinary way does not exist when *Formic Aldehyde* is used for the purpose.

Disinfection
after
Phthisis.

At the request of Medical Attendants, disinfection of rooms and clothing has followed in connection with many cases of Phthisis.

DESTRUCTION OF INFECTED ARTICLES.

Uniform,
Clothing, &c.
destroyed.

In the month of May, a notification of a case of Scarlatina was received, the patient being a member of the County Constabulary. The case, unfortunately, proved to be fatal, and the County Authorities deemed it advisable to have all articles of Uniform, etc., as well as a

number of other articles, destroyed. On the request being made the various garments, etc., were conveyed to the Destructor Dépôt, and there burned. In all, 36 articles were so dealt with in connection with this case.

In the month of November, following a fatal case of Cancer, a request was made by the occupiers of the house at which the case had occurred, for the removal and destruction of various garments and bedding, etc. Some dozen articles were promptly taken to the Destructor Dépôt, and there burned. Clothing destroyed.

Food Inspection.

LAIRAGE INSPECTION.

During the past year, 48,053 lbs. of Meat have been seized at the Wallasey and Alfred Lairages, and destroyed as unfit for human food, namely :—

Beef	7,913 lbs.	Details of Meat seized.
Mutton	..	..	..	4,873 „
Veal	..	..	..	1,042 „
Offal	..	..	..	34,225 „

SHOP VISITATION.

The Butchers' and Fish and Poultry Shops have been visited once in each week, and the contents thereof examined. 1,500 lbs. of meat etc., have been removed and destroyed in connection with this inspection. Shop Inspection.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSE INSPECTION.

879 visits have been paid to the various Private Slaughter-houses for the purpose of inspecting carcasses, and 8,966 lbs. of Meat, etc., removed therefrom for the purpose of being destroyed.

The details of the meat, etc., dealt with are as follows :—

Beef	6,255 lbs.	Details.
Mutton	..	..	..	219 „
Veal	..	..	..	174 „
Pork	..	..	..	1,203 „
Lamb	..	..	..	604 „
Offal	..	..	..	511 „

INSPECTION OF HAWKERS' CARTS AND BASKETS.

479 examinations were made of the contents of hawkers' baskets, and the food stuffs in each case found to be satisfactory.

Depositing
Fish Offal.

In a number of cases the owners of fish carts have been cautioned as to depositing fish offal on the public highways.

Local Government Act, 1894.

RENEWAL OF GAME LICENCES.

In the majority of cases applications have been received by your Committee from Poulterers, etc. in this district for a Licence to deal in Game. The usual enquiries have been made in each case, and where it has been found that the Game Laws have been complied with the Licence has been granted. In other instances the granting of the Licences has been deferred until the applicant has carried out the necessary work, and a report to that effect subsequently submitted to your Committee.

The number of persons holding Licences to deal in Game in this district is 15, of whom 4 were registered during the past year.

Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts, 1885 and 1886.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS INSPECTION.

Cowkeepers
required to be
registered.

Under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders of 1885, no person is allowed to carry on the trade of a cowkeeper unless he is duly registered by the Local Authority, and has provided for the sanitary state of all dairies and milkshops in his occupation, under a penalty of £5.

Cubic space
required for
each cow.

In accordance with the Regulations made by the Council under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders of 1885 and 1886, 800 cubic feet of free air space is required for each cow. Proper and suitable means of lighting, ventilation, drainage, water supply, etc., must be provided, and the lime-washing of roof and walls must be carried out during the months of May and October.

Sanitary
provisions.

The same provisions apply in so far as refers to milkstores and Regulations milkshops, with an additional provision with respect to the giving of ^{re Milkshops,} notice in the case of the existence of infectious disease to the Local Authority, and the cleansing of milk vessels. Milkshops and milkstores are required to be lime-whited or otherwise cleansed in the months of February, June and October. &c.

There are now on the Register 19 cowkeepers and 96 dairymen Registration. and purveyors of milk, occupying in the aggregate 38 cowsheds and 99 dairies, milkshops and milkstores. 6 cowkeepers and 13 purveyors of milk have discontinued business during the year, and applications have been received for the registration of 1 cowkeeper, and 21 purveyors of milk.

In all cases of new Registrations, the premises proposed to be utilised have been visited, in order to see that they were suitable for the purpose intended.

471 visits have been paid to the various cowsheds, and 276 to the Details of milkshops, milkstores, and dairies throughout the district, in order to inspection. ascertain whether the provisions of the above Act and Orders were being complied with respecting lighting, ventilation, air space, cleansing, drainage, water supply, precautions against infection, etc.

Circulars have been periodically issued to all cowkeepers and Periodical purveyors of milk, reminding them of the Regulations respecting issue of lime-washing, lighting, ventilation, cleansing, drainage, water supply, Circulars. etc. In no case has it been found necessary to resort to legal proceedings to enforce the Regulations made by the Council under the Dairies and Cowsheds Order with respect to these trades.

In one case a milkstore has been closed during the year, owing to Infectious the children of the occupier having contracted infectious disease. case on No person who had in any way been in contact with the patient premises used as a milkstore. was allowed to take part in the distribution of milk to the public. The patient was immediately removed from the premises, and the whole Fumigation of the house was subsequently thoroughly fumigated. The portion and cleaning. used as a milkstore was efficiently cleansed, re-painted and lime washed prior to being re-opened for business purposes.

OVERCROWDING OF COWSHEDS.

No serious overcrowding. In connection with the systematic inspection of Cowsheds situate in various parts of the district, it is satisfactory to note that no serious cases of overcrowding were found during the past twelve months. The Inspector who has charge of this particular work did find, however, on several occasions, some instances of slight overcrowding, chiefly of a temporary nature. On an intimation being given by the officer to the cowkeeper, the cattle in excess were immediately transferred to other shippens. There was therefore, no necessity to serve notices or to take legal proceedings in any case.

REVISION OF REGISTERS.

Registers submitted to Committee. In accordance with the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order of 1885, the Registers of all persons carrying on the trade of a Dairyman, Cowkeeper, or Purveyor of Milk, have been revised and corrected during the year, and submitted to your Committee.

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

INSPECTION OF WORKSHOPS.

Registration. There are at present on the Register, 195 Workshops. During the year there have been added 24 new Workshops, and 13 have been discontinued.

Inspections and Notices. 345 visits of inspection have been made, and it has been found necessary to issue preliminary notices in respect of the following matters :—

For Structural Defects	.. ..	12 Notices.
For Cleansing of Walls and Ceilings	..	18 „

Only one case of overcrowding has been found to exist.

Bakehouses Of the total number of workrooms above mentioned, 86 are bakehouses, *i.e.*, workshops either connected solely with the business of baking bread ; with the production of both bread and confectionery, or confectionery alone. The workshops added during the year are chiefly of this latter class.

In five instances it was found that protected persons were employed without the proprietor exhibiting an Abstract, as required ; and in each instance His Majesty's Inspector has been advised of the contravention. Contraven-
tions of Act.

Four intimations have been received during the year from other Authorities with respect to persons residing in this districts who are engaged as outworkers. The sanitary arrangements of the premises have been carefully enquired into, and where defective conditions have been found to exist, the usual notices have been issued. In the majority of cases dealt with in this way, it was found that the persons referred to merely brought work to their own home for execution. Intimation
from other
Authorities.

UNDERGROUND BAKEHOUSES.

Included in the 86 bakehouses already mentioned are 26 underground premises which have been dealt with during the past year under the section of the Act dealing therewith. In one instance the Visiting Officer was refused admission for the purpose of inspection. On an intimation being sent by letter to the occupier pointing out his liability for obstruction, no further trouble was experienced. Inspection.
Obstruction
of Officer.

Of the 22 underground bakehouses in use at the end of 1904, only one is now outstanding as not complying with the requirements for registration. In the remaining instances a great improvement has been made, by the reconstruction of floors, the cementing and rendering damp-proof of internal wall surfaces, the provision of additional and adequate means for lighting and ventilation, together with the provision of castors to the contained furniture, rendering same easily movable for cleansing of floors, etc. Underground
Bakehouses
in use at end
of year.

Of the 16 Laundry establishments in this district coming under the jurisdiction of the Council's inspection, three were found to have insufficient floors in connection with the washing apartments. On notice being sent to the proprietors the necessary remedial works and provision for adequate means of drainage were promptly carried out. Laundries.

Workshops
employing
female
labour.

86 of the Workshops on the Register in which female labour is employed, have been visited by the Female Sanitary Inspector. These Workshops comprise 112 rooms, 98 of which were found in a clean condition at the time of inspection. The remaining 14 were discovered to be somewhat dirty, for which notices to clean were subsequently issued. No case of female overcrowding was discovered.

Intimations
to His
Majesty's
Inspector.

Where the requisite notices have not been exhibited in the work-rooms, intimations have been sent to His Majesty's Inspector in accordance with the requirements of the Factory Act. Intimations have also been received from that official with regard to insufficient lavatory accommodation in Factories within this district.

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY FEMALE SANITARY INSPECTOR IN CONNECTION WITH INSPECTION OF WORKSHOPS.

Number of visits to Workshops	..	..	..	144
„ „ Inspection of Rooms	..	..	..	193
„ „ Rooms found clean	..	..	..	179
„ „ „ dirty	..	..	..	14
„ „ Rooms found overcrowded	..	..	..	—
„ „ visits paid to out-workers	..	..	..	28
„ „ visits paid to domestic workshops	..	..	..	8
TOTAL VISITS				180
Number of Workshops on Register, Jan. 1st, 1904				87
„ „ „ added during the year	..	..	..	4
TOTAL				91
Discontinued during 1904	..	..	..	5
Total on Register at Dec. 31st, 1904				86

Petroleum Acts, 1871, 1879, 1881.

Three applications have been received during the year for per- Licences to mission to store Petrol at various premises situated within store Petrol. the district. Each application has been specially enquired into, and when suitable accommodation for storage has been provided, in accordance with the suggestions made at the time of visiting the premises, a report to that effect has been submitted to your Committee. The construction of the stores has been carried out practically on the same lines as adopted in other districts where Petrol is stored, and in each case your Committee has subsequently granted the licence, subject to strict compliance with the conditions enumerated in the report submitted in connection with each application.

The 8 premises on which Motor-car Spirit is stored are frequently Frequent visited during the year. Inspections.

Petrol is not allowed to be kept by any person in this district Conditions of unless in a metal vessel substantially constructed so as to prevent the storage. escape of liquid or vapour. Each vessel has to bear the words "Petrol, Highly Inflammable," together with the full name and address of the owner legibly stamped or marked thereon, or on a metallic or enamelled label attached thereto. No such vessel must exceed a capacity of two gallons. Before any repairs are executed special precautions have to be taken in connection with the emptying and cleansing of all such vessels, of both spirit and vapour. The shed used for storing purposes has to be entirely separate and distinct from a Workshop or any other building, and has to be well ventilated. Not more than 60 gallons is allowed to be stored at any one time, unless under special arrangement with the Local Authority. No artificial light whatever is to be used in connection with the opening or filling of vessels. No unauthorized person is to be allowed access to either the store or the vessels in which the spirit is kept.

Some little difficulty arose during the year with regard to the Quantities storage of Petroleum and its products, particularly with reference to allowed to be stored. Motor-car Spirit. I had an interview with the Chief Inspector at Manchester, and found that it was usual to allow from 10 to 60

gallons of the spirit to be stored at the rear of premises in that city. Frequent visits were paid by the Inspectors, who have full power to examine any other portion of the premises than that actually licensed for storage where they have any doubt as to the quantity being kept by the Licencee.

Application
for renewal
of licence to
store
Benzine.

An application has been received from the Gandy Belt Manufacturing Company for the renewal of their licence to store 240 gallons of Benzine on certain land adjoining their premises in Wheatland Lane, Seacombe. As it was found that during the year the shed had been kept in a satisfactory condition, and well secured in order to prevent unauthorized persons from tampering with the spirit stored therein, your Committee granted the application, subject to strict compliance with the original conditions under which the licence was issued.

Storage
Company's
application
for renewal
of licence,

In connection with the application received from the Liverpool Storage Company, Limited, for a renewal of their licence to store Petroleum in their Oil Dépôt, Poulton, I found on visiting the Works, that the same conditions were existing as had been reported to your Committee from time to time, with the exception of a slight extension which had taken place in connection with the Cooper's Shop. This workshop is now situated in a corrugated iron building erected over the vaults numbered A1 to 6. These vaults are not used for storing Petroleum. At the time the application was made it was found that there were 10,000 barrels of Naphtha, and 1,600 cases of Petrol stored at this Dépôt. In addition to this there was also the usual stock of lubricating oils. It would appear that every possible precaution is taken to prevent accidents.

Alterations
on premises.

Canal Boat Inspection.

CANAL BOATS ACTS, 1877 & 1884, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
BOARD REGULATIONS.

In accordance with the circular letter received from the Secretary of the Local Government Board, I have the honour to lay before your Committee my Fifteenth Annual Report with regard to the measures

adopted during the past year to give effect to the provisions of the Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884, and the Regulations of the Local Government Board made thereunder.

Three Inspectors devote part of their time to the duties in connection with the inspection of canal boats ; and for this purpose frequent visits have been paid to the Great Float (North Side), and the Wallasey and Alfred Docks and entrances.

313 canal boats have been boarded and examined during the year ending 31st December, 1904.

The general cleanliness of the boats has been well maintained, the strict and systematic supervision exercised over the past few years being responsible in a large measure for this satisfactory condition.

In 16 cases the boats did not comply with the Canal Boats Acts and Local Government Regulations made thereunder, and notices were served in each instance requiring the execution of the necessary remedial works :—

- (a) In no case was a boat found not to be duly registered.
- (b) In no instance was a notification of change of master received.
- (c) In six cases the master of the boat failed to produce a certificate of registration.
- (d) In seven cases the boats were not properly lettered, marked and numbered.
- (e & f) No instances of overcrowding have been discovered, each boat generally carrying two men only.
- (g) The boats have generally been found in a fairly clean condition.
- (h) In no case was a boat found insufficiently ventilated.

- (i) In five cases it was found that the painted surfaces in connection with the interior of the cabin had not been thoroughly renewed for a period of three years.
- (j) In no case was it found that a water cask had not been provided.
- (k) So far as could be ascertained at the time of inspection, bilge water is removed every 24 hours.
- (l) No case of infectious disease, so far as could be ascertained, has occurred on any of the boats inspected.
- (m) In no case was the Inspector obstructed.
- (n) The owner's name and address were found to have been properly entered on the certificate in each case where the certificate was produced.
- (o) In two instances it was found that the sleeping berths were unprotected from dirt and weather.
- (p) In no case has it been found necessary to resort to legal proceedings.
- (q) In one case a boat carrying offensive cargo was found with defective bulkheads.

In those cases where defective conditions have been discovered, and notices served to remedy, detailed reports of the contraventions have been submitted to your Committee. Following these reports it was resolved to institute legal proceedings in the event of the certificate attached to the complaint notes not being returned within a reasonable time.

Where owners have failed to return the certificate within the time specified, an intimation has been sent drawing their attention to the neglect to comply with the Acts, and further intimating that the proceedings authorized by your Committee would be commenced failing its prompt return.

A considerable amount of correspondence has of necessity passed between the owners of canal boats and myself during the past year with regard to the notices issued by this Department.

In one case some difficulty was experienced in obtaining the return of the certificate attached to the complaint note, but ultimately, the owner under pressure forwarded the necessary document after the required works had been completed.

I am glad to be able to report, therefore, that during the past year I have been successful in every instance in securing owner's compliance without in any case having to resort to legal proceedings.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. C. BASCOMBE, Assoc. Royal San. Inst.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

February, 1905:

